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The Spectator
"Older than the New York Times"

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Rosenberg hiring sparks controversy

by Kathleen McGrory '05
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Faculty members are debating the College's controversial hire of Susan Rosenberg, a political activist whose 58-year federal prison sentence was commuted in 2001 by former President Clinton. Rosenberg has been hired as the Kirkland Project's artist-and-activist-in-residence for 2005, and will be teaching a half-credit course this spring called "Resistance Memoirs: Writing, Identity, and Change."

The dialogue began at Tuesday afternoon's meeting of the faculty, when Professor of Anthropology Doug Raybeck questioned whether the Kirkland Project had provided potential students with adequate information about Rosenberg's past. Some faculty then raised concerns regarding Hamilton's standards for hiring instructors, and later, academic freedom on the Hill.

Rosenberg first made headlines in 1981, when she was indicted for her involvement in the armed robbery of a Brink's armored car. The group that held up the truck in Nyack, NY killed guard Peter Paige and local Police Officers Edward O'Grady and Waverly Brown. Rosenberg, a former member of Weather Underground and the Black Liberation Army, was never tried on these charges and denied involvement.

She was later arrested in November of 1984 for having in her possession 740 pounds of explosives and an arsenal of weapons. She was charged with transporting weapons with the intent to

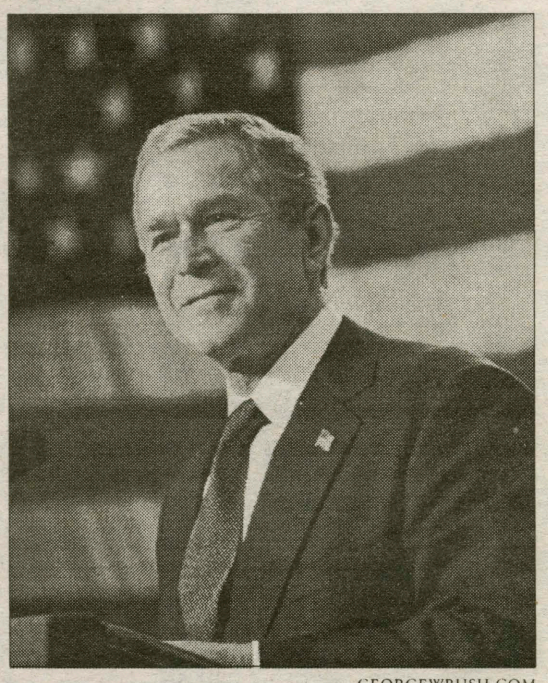
*see **Rosenberg**, page 6*

Bush wins national election

by Greta Rosenberger '07
NEWS EDITOR

At the conclusion of one of the closest presidential elections in American history, Senator John Kerry conceded the presidency to George W. Bush Wednesday morning. Bush won at least 3.5 million more votes than Kerry, securing the popular vote with 51% to Kerry's 49%. Although the final tally of electoral votes remained unknown, Bush had won 274 of the electoral votes and Kerry had 252 when he phoned Bush at the White House on Wednesday morning to concede the race. Bush's success in the swing state of Ohio played a large part in his victory, boosting his count of electoral votes past the 270 needed to win the presidency.

In his concession speech on Wednesday afternoon, Kerry spoke about his earlier talk with Bush, which Bush had described as being "very gracious." "We had a good conversation, and we talked about the danger of division in our country and the need — the desperate need for unity, for finding the common ground, coming together. Today I hope that we can begin the healing." Kerry made several references to his hope that such a divided country could begin a process of unification and healing.



GEORGEWBUSH.COM

President Bush was re-elected with 51 percent of the popular vote.

Although Kerry spoke with obvious regret at losing such a close race by only 2% of the popular vote, there was no remorse in his speech. He also made no insinuations that the results of the race, even with uncounted votes in multiple states, were in any way unfair, saying that "even when all the provisional ballots are counted, which they will be, there won't be enough outstanding votes for us to be able to win Ohio. And therefore we cannot win this election."

In Bush's victory speech, he thanked all of his supporters and stated that "America has spoken, and I'm humbled by the trust and the confidence of my fellow citizens." He pledged his support for economic progress, tax reform, the strengthening of Social Security for the next generation, and also his commitment to uphold "our deepest values of family and faith."

The Republican Party also gained the majority in the House of Representatives and in the Senate as a result of Tuesday's elections. Although two of the House's 435 seats are undecided, and one is held by an independent, the Republican Party now holds 230 seats to the Democrat's 202.

Many of the exit polls revealed that the majority of the population (79 %, according to CNN.com) who voted for Bush cited "moral values" as the most important issue of this year's election. In keeping with the Bush's conservative values, constitutional amendments banning same-sex marriage were approved by voters in 11 states. Most of the states who supported this move went to Bush.

Voters in these states also highlighted faith, trust, and the war on terrorism as being important in their decision to vote for Bush. Supporters of Kerry, in contrast, tended to place their main focus in the state of the national economy. The majority of them (80%) also emphasized intelligence,

*see **Election**, page 2*

ResLife considers all-frosh dorms

by Katie Childs '08
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

The residential life structure at Hamilton will change dramatically with the possible realization of all-freshmen dorms next fall.

"We're leaning in that direction, and still exploring various forms that that might take and the ramifications of implementing it," said Acting Dean of Students Nancy Thompson.

The concept of all-freshmen housing is not new: "The Committee on Student Affairs talked about this at some length last year," said Thompson. "It has actually come up in other ways like during the Adler Conference and with the Alcohol Coalition."

"There are benefits: it develops stronger class unity," said Thompson. Supporting students beyond orientation week is one of the main benefits to the plan: "we just don't have any opportunity after orientation to provide support for first year students."

It has not been determined yet which dorms would be the best to house first year students. "Dunham is a clear and obvious choice," said Thompson, who cites that "the first year dorms must be buildings that lend themselves to community." In addition to Dun

*see **Housing**, page 4*

PHOTO BY BOBBY COLE '06

Kirkland dormitory will be converted to freshmen housing starting next year.

More than 2,200 visitors participate in Family Weekend

by Emily Byron '07
NEWS WRITER

The College's 2004 Family Weekend, which began last Friday and ended on Sunday, was orchestrated by the Office of Alumni Programs. Based on wide participation and immediate feedback from families, the weekend was reported to be a great success. Coordinators of the annual series of events aspire to introduce families to academic, social and cultural student life at Hamilton, while giving them an opportunity to visit with their children during the peak of the autumn season.

Jon Hysell '72, Director of Alumni Programs, said that 678 families registered, 67 more families than last year, and 2,257 visitors attended. Traditional events on Family Weekends include Career Center workshops, an address by the College President, the Summer Science Poster Session, and musical performances.

This year's program also incorporated new events: tours of the new science building, a breakfast sponsored by the Dean of Students office, and an Origami demonstration and workshop in the Emerson Gallery.

Hysell was proudly pointed out activities that would engage families in such a way that they could understand student life at Hamilton. The "Hamilton Student experience" began on Friday with open classes, and continued with Saturday's Open House events in the Maurice Horowitch Career Center and Afro-Latino Cultural Center, football and women's and men's soccer games, and culminated with an Adirondack Adventure slideshow display of pictures from the Class of 2008's pre-orientation trips to the Adirondacks.

Saturday's football game against Williams College was well attended by students and their families. As one enthusiastic sophomore, Jenny Orbaker, commented, "It was awesome to see so many fami

*see **Family Weekend**, page 2*

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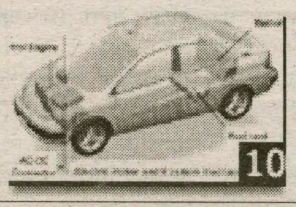

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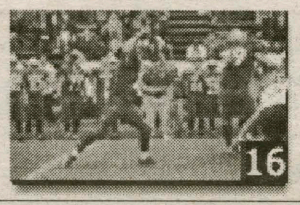

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RAs distribute triangles

by Whitney Kimmel '08
NEWS WRITER

In response to recent hate crimes directed towards the gay-lesbian-bisexual or transgendered (GLBT) community on campus, the Dean of Students sponsored the distribution of pink triangle stickers that symbolize allegiance and tolerance of GLBT students. The Dean's office felt the triangles were a good way for students to show that they felt such acts of hate were unacceptable and an important issue on campus, as well as expressing the College's desire to make a community where everyone, regardless of sexual orientation, feels welcome and comfortable.

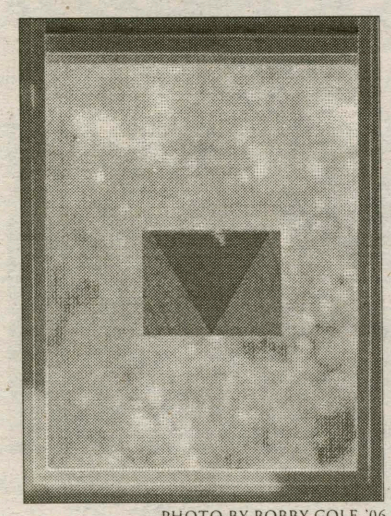


PHOTO BY BOBBY COLE '06
A pink triangle on a student door.

As Nancy Thompson, Acting Dean of Students, stated, "just about every year something - some act - occurs that makes the community want to rally together." This year we rally together to eliminate fear and hate being directed at gay students.

"The idea [of pink triangles] came up at a Rainbow Alliance meeting a few weeks ago. It's actually something that we had done maybe 10 or 12 years ago," says Thompson. Students have enthusiastically posted pink triangles on their doors, bulletin boards and desks to demonstrate their support.

Colleen Granahan '08 stated, "I feel as if the pink triangles are a great way to bring the community together and support a cause that might not get as much publicity normally, but I also feel that more should be done when it comes to these acts because they keep happening. And although we're putting symbols up, I feel this issue needs to be addressed not only through email and stickers, but more actively within the community. I think it's a good first step though and I support the idea wholeheartedly." Colleen is not the only student who feels this way.

Although the stickers are readily available from all Resident Advisors, many students have expressed confusion about what the triangles symbolize and where to get them. When asked about the pink triangles, Albert Trithart '08 wasn't sure exactly what they were, although he was aware

*see **Triangles**, page 6*

Faculty meeting addresses diversity

by Alexandra Sear '05
MANAGING EDITOR

Last Tuesday, November 2, the faculty held their monthly meeting in the Events Barn. Associate Dean of the Faculty Kirk Pillow presented a report on affirmative action policies and the diversity of the Hamilton faculty.

Acting Dean of Students Nancy Thompson also gave a talk on how the Dean of Students Office responds to cases of harassment. President Joan Hinde Stewart and VPAA/Dean of the Faculty David C. Paris then addressed the faculty, and the meeting concluded with a short discussion of the Kirkland Project's recent appointment of Susan Rosenberg to a part-time position in the spring.

Associate Dean Pillow spoke about ongoing "hiring initiatives the College is pursuing in regards to faculty recruitment, as well as broad diversity initiatives." In his report, Pillow drew from survey results collected for the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, which includes faculty diversity statistics from Hamilton's peer institutions. Pillow said that based on these numbers the College's "situation in regards to faculty of color is better than many, but not as good as a few" of them.

At 14.4%, our percentage of faculty of color is above the average of our peers and is similar to that of Middlebury, Amherst, Bates, Swarthmore and Williams colleges; however, Haverford and Mount Holyoke colleges have 21.2% and 22.2% faculty of color, respectively. In response to a question from Professor of Government Steve Orvis on why those two schools have significantly higher numbers, Pillow replied that both schools included diversity goals in their

*see **Faculty**, page 4*

Kerry loses by 2% of popular vote

*from **Election**, page 1*

the desire for change, and empathy as being essential to their values.

In response to the results of the national election, Associate Professor of Government Philip Klinkner stated that "Young people turned out in greater numbers than in 2000, but so did older voters. Essentially, the pro-Kerry shift of younger voters was offset by a pro-Bush shift among voters over 60 years old. So if you went to all the trouble to register and vote so that Kerry could win, blame your grandparents."

Associate Professor of Economics Ann Owen also gave her thoughts on the election. "While the Republicans claim that Bush has received a clear mandate for his policies, that conclusion doesn't necessarily follow from the fact that he won the majority of the popular vote. If some supporters voted for him because of social policy, others because of his economic policy, and others because of his role in fighting terrorism, he may not have a clear majority supporting any one policy in particular. Hopefully, however, he and the Republican Congress will focus on important economic issues facing us today: deficit reduction, Social Security and Medicare reform, and health care reform."

VOX sponsors discussion: "Making Safe Sex Sexy"

by Katie Stinchfield '07
NEWS WRITER

On Thursday, November 3, Students Against Sexual Assault (SASA) and Voices of Planned Parenthood (VOX) hosted a discussion on "Making Sex Safe and Safe Sex Sexy." The topics ranged from how to practice safe sex, the issues of consent, and the "hook up culture." The talk was lead by Linday Crusan '05, president of SASA, Lauren Leatherman '05, president of VOX, and Courtney McBride '05, secretary of VOX.

The two organizations hosted this event for the second year in a row because according to Leatherman, "we don't talk about sex and it's something we need to talk about. It's something that's really relevant to current politics." Both SASA and VOX wanted to create an environment for students to discuss sex because it is an important issue on campus. According to Crusan, "We wanted a safe space for us all to come together and talk about it, and it's something that's fun to talk about."

According to Leatherman, "Sex ed has basically been shut down other than abstinence." McBride talked about how many people feel that sex education in schools

*see **Sex**, page 6*

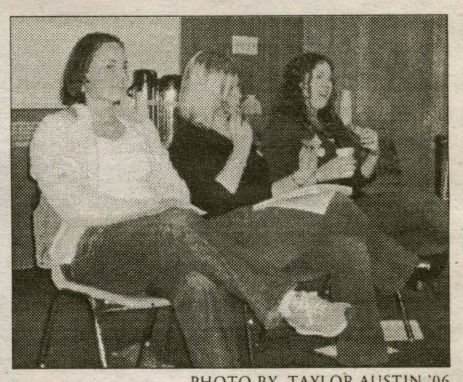


PHOTO BY TAYLOR AUSTIN '06
Students at VOX's discussion.

Stewart's address highlights Family Weekend

*from **Family Weekend**, page 1*

lies supporting our teams!"

Overwhelming attendance at most of this year's events was evidence of a Family Weekend success. President Joan Hinde Stewart greeted a near-capacity crowd at Wellin Hall for her 9:30 p.m. address. In addition to Stewart's address were four faculty discussions, which were also well attended.

Sometimes, it's "purely academic." Just three days shy of this year's presidential election, parents enjoyed a unique opportunity to gain the perspectives of James S. Sherman Associate Professor of Government Philip Klinkner and Associate Professor of Economics and Director of the Levitt Center Ann Owen. Their topics centered on the issues that would ultimately influence the November 2 vote. According to Hysell, "the divisions in political preferences were clear" and the discussion was thoughtful and balanced.

In addition, Hysell felt that parents were impressed with the faculty's approach to "exposing students to the knowledge, skills and tools necessary to make informed decisions, rather than expressing personal biases, and the exposure to a wide range of political perspectives."

The Maurice Horowitch Career Center provided parents with the perfect forum through which to increase their awareness (and alleviate their anxieties about) the professional job search. Kino Ruth, Director of the Career Center, and his team conducted five center-sponsored events, including an open house that ran almost an hour past its closing time.

Director Ruth noted that parents are often surprised at how different the career search process is today than it was just a few years ago. Based on immediate feedback from visiting families, Ruth feels "optimistic that [the Career Center's] services are needed and appreciated."

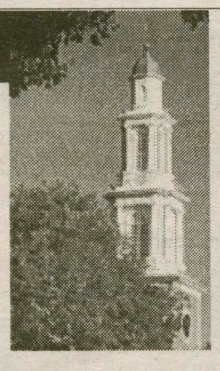
Unexpectedly, an overwhelming interest in the science center tours caused Stone Professor of Psychology Douglas Weldon to increase the initial two tours scheduled to a total of twelve. The tour guides described how the goals of the Center (increased student-faculty interaction, increased visibility of classroom activity, and openness and brightness in the facilities) were expressed in the architecture of the building.

Weldon and his colleagues discussed the environmentally conscious efforts that went into the project, and also explained "the role of the research laboratories, and how this fits into the educational curriculum," adding that faculty had direct input in laboratory design. Weldon predicted that up to 250 visitors walked through the Science Center, and that the "families were very impressed."

Last year's Family Weekend survey inspired programming changes, including Friday's a cappella concert, which was rescheduled to 5:00 p.m. from the previous 10 p.m. concert time. The new schedule permits younger family members to hear the vocal groups perform.

All people interviewed for this article agree that this year's Family Weekend was an incredible success. "And," Hysell added, "the weather was a huge plus."

IVORY TOWERS



THE NEWS AT COLLEGES ACROSS THE LAND

Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Lil' Kim to Talk to Syracuse University Class

SYRACUSE, New York (AP) — Syracuse University students taking "Hip-Hop Eshu: Queen B@#$H 101 — The Life and Times of Lil' Kim" will have a guest speaker Wednesday — the multiplatinum recording artist herself.

Kim accepted an invitation to speak to the class, which is an accredited course being taught by English professor Greg Thomas. She'll also meet with faculty and about 100 other invited students during her visit to discuss her role in the hip-hop culture and her experiences as one of its leading female stars.

"I am honored and quite proud that a class is being taught on my sensationalist lyrics, unique style and fashion and leadership role within the hip-hop community," the 29-year-old rapper said in a statement.

The class is one of a growing number of courses being offered by colleges and universities around the country that look at the growth of hip-hop as a cultural movement.

The Syracuse course requires students to read Kim's song lyrics as literary texts and analyze her iconography in videos and performances, according to the course description.

Parents, Students Protest School ID Badges

POPLAR BLUFF, Missouri (AP) — A new policy at a high school requiring students to wear identification badges has prompted some parents to complain and students to protest the move as an infringement on their rights.

The badges, which are identical to the IDs students have always been required to carry and use to check out library books at Poplar Bluff High School, are now required to be worn on campus during school hours.

"We need to be able to identify people without having to walk up to them and ask if they are a student or a teacher," said Sheldon Tyler, an assistant principal at the high school in this town of 16,700 about 150 miles south of St. Louis.

Some students have put stickers on their badges in protest — a policy the superintendent has permitted as an exercise in free speech. One father, John Durbin, withdrew his two daughters until he can talk to the school board about the policy.

"I believe this country needs security. But if we put ourselves in a cage just to be safe, what kind of life do we have? There is a fine line there, and I wonder if we are beginning to cross it," Durbin said.

Durbin said the policy change should have been decided by the school board instead of school administrators. He and other parents plan to give the school board a petition at the next meeting on November 18 asking them to eliminate the policy.

Student Sues to Distribute Religious Fliers

LIVERPOOL, New York (AP) — A fourth-grader and her mother claim a school district violated the girl's constitutional rights to free speech and equal protection by refusing to allow her to distribute "personal statement" fliers to other students because they carried a religious message.

The lawsuit was filed Thursday in U.S. District Court against the Liverpool Central School District by Nicole Martin and her daughter, Michaela Bloodgood.

According to the lawsuit, the school district near Syracuse repeatedly denied Martin's requests for Michaela to pass out a homemade "personal statement" flier to other students at Nate Perry Elementary School.

The flier, about the size of a greeting card, starts out: "Hi! My name is Michaela and I would like to tell you about my life and how Jesus Christ gave me a new one."

The flier mentions five ways in which Jesus had come into her life.

"This is nothing less than viewpoint discrimination," said Mat Staver, an attorney and executive director of Liberty Counsel, an Orlando, Florida-based conservative legal group that is representing Bloodgood.

WORLD NEWS

Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Arafat Fighting for His Life in Paris

CLAMART, France (AP) — Yasser Arafat was reportedly fighting for his life Thursday at a French military hospital after losing consciousness, as anxious Palestinian officials transferred some of their 75-year-old leader's powers to Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia.

Doctors at Percy Military Training Hospital outside Paris, where Arafat was airlifted last Friday after more than two years of confinement in the West Bank, quashed a swirl of reports that he had died. But the French doctors would not say much else, and confusion ruled as Palestinians issued conflicting reports about Arafat's condition and how close to death he was.

Outside the hospital, some 50 well-wishers held a vigil late into the evening. Some held candles, others portraits of Arafat. A large Palestinian flag hung from the hospital's outer wall.

"It tears your heart up," said Mahmod Nimr, a 36-year-old unemployed Palestinian. "I can't see someone taking his place."

In an emergency meeting in the West Bank town of Ramallah, the PLO executive committee empowered Qureia to deal with urgent administrative and financial matters in Arafat's absence, said committee member Qais Abdel Karim.

Qureia also will meet with security chiefs in the Gaza Strip on Friday to ensure that no internal conflict erupts in the volatile area at a time of uncertainty, a Palestinian official said.

U.N. Envoy: Darfur Sliding Toward Anarchy

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The top U.N. envoy to Sudan warned the Security Council Thursday that Darfur could easily descend into anarchy with warlords in control unless African Union troops deploy quickly and peace negotiations speed up.

Jan Pronk said the 20-month conflict in the vast western region is changing, with the government not in control of its own forces and a leadership crisis within the rebel movements.

He accused both sides of violating an April cease-fire agreement and seeking more territory in Darfur, which is about the size of France.

While there was slow progress on the political front in October, Pronk said, violence and insecurity increased and in recent days "the situation deteriorated and tension rose to a level unprecedented since early August."

"Fighting is breaking out in more and more places. Parties are provoking one another. Militias are ganging up. Governmental authorities are not able to exert a moderating influence, or they respond with untimely and even counter-productive measures," he said.

"If this negative trend is not reversed it is a recipe for disaster," Pronk warned. "If the fighting continues crops will fail. Then the whole population of Darfur will become dependent on humanitarian assistance."

Firefighters Contain Blaze in Denmark

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — Hundrd firefightercontained a huge blaze at a fireworks factory Thursday, a day after it broke out, setting off at least one explosion as powerful as an earthquake. One firefighter was killed and at least 20 homes were destroyed.

As many as 350 buildings, including private homes and small businesses, may have been damaged by the fire at the N.P. Johnsens fireworks factory in Kolding in western Denmark, 125 miles west of the capital, Copenhagen.

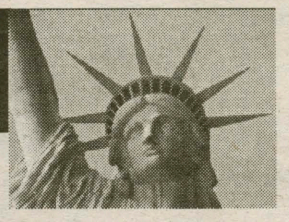
The blaze was thought to have started Wednesday when two containers of fireworks were being loaded onto a truck, police said.

It quickly spread to a nearby building and led to a chain reaction of explosions.

One of the explosions was the equivalent of a magnitude-2 earthquake, according to the Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland. It was unclear what caused the container to combust.

About 2,000 people living near the factory were evacuated as authorities set up a security perimeter. It might take days before people can return, police spokeswoman Gitte Schou said as firefighters worked to cool the containers.

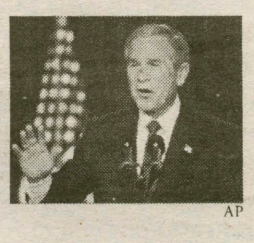
NATIONAL NEWS



Compiled by Dan Bleeker '06

Bush Outlines Agenda for Second Term

WASHINGTON (AP) — Contending Americans have embraced his conservative agenda, President Bush pledged Thursday to aggressively pursue major changes in Social Security, the tax code and medical malpractice awards, working with Democrats if they are receptive and leaving them behind if they're not.



AP

"I earned capital in the campaign, political capital, and now I intend to spend it," Bush said a day after a decisive victory that made him the first president in 68 years to win re-election and gain seats in both the House and Senate.

"I'll reach out to everyone who shares our goals," said Bush, who 24 hours earlier had promised to try to win over those who voted for his Democratic opponent.

Buoyant and relaxed on Thursday, Bush cracked jokes at his first postelection news conference and said he had not decided on any changes in his Cabinet for the second term. He took congratulatory calls from world leaders from Russia, Poland, Iraq, Afghanistan, Israel and Italy before flying to Camp David for four days of rest after the grueling campaign.

As U.S. forces in Iraq mobilize for an all-out offensive in Fallujah and other Sunni militant strongholds, the president refused to say how much the war would cost or whether he planned to increase or cut troop strengths.

Elizabeth Edwards Has Breast Cancer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Elizabeth Edwards, wife of former Democratic vice presidential candidate John Edwards, was diagnosed with breast cancer the day her husband and Sen. John Kerry conceded the presidential race.

Spokesman David Ginsberg said Mrs. Edwards, 55, discovered a lump in her right breast while on a campaign trip last week. Her family doctor told her Friday that it appeared to be cancerous and advised her to see a specialist when she could. She put off the appointment until Wednesday so as not to miss campaign time.

The Edwards family went straight to Massachusetts General Hospital from Boston's Faneuil Hall after Kerry and Edwards conceded on Wednesday.

Mrs. Edwards had a needle biopsy performed at the hospital, where Dr. Barbara Smith confirmed the cancer, Ginsberg said.

He said the cancer was diagnosed as invasive ductal cancer. That is the most common type of breast cancer, and can spread from the milk ducts to other parts of the breast or beyond.

2005 Stamps to Feature Muppets, Reagan

WASHINGTON (AP) — It isn't easy being green. It isn't easy getting on a U.S. postage stamp either, but Kermit the Frog will manage it next year, along with his Muppet friends.

New stamps also will recall the late President Ronald Reagan, singer Marian Anderson, actor Henry Fonda and songwriter Yip Harburg, notable scientists, famous Marines and sports cars, the U.S. Postal Service said Thursday.

"U.S. commemorative stamps portray individuals, subjects and events that are instrumental to the American experience," said David Failor, executive director of stamp services for the Postal Service.

Thousands of suggestions are culled for a few dozen stamps to be issued each year.

If he had to pull strings to get on a stamp, Kermit did it effectively, with no less than 11 stamps honoring the Muppets and their creator, Jim Henson, scheduled for debut in March.

Among those appearing in the set are, of course, Miss Piggy, as well as Statler and Waldorf, the Swedish Chef and Dr. Bunson Honeydew and his assistant Beaker.

Beloved as they are, Kermit and friends aren't the first puppets to make it on stamps, Charlie McCarthy managed the feat in 1991, along with his assistant Edgar Bergen.

Faculty hear diversity report at November meeting

from ***Faculty*** *, page 2*

most recent strategic plans.

Pillow also mentioned that Hamilton's rural setting was "a challenge" in diversifying faculty recruitment, and in comparison to schools like Bates and Colby in "comparably remote" areas, Hamilton was doing "fairly decently." There has also been "an incremental improvement" in the College's gender ratio of male to female professors, "especially in he numbers of women promoted to full professor," Pillow reported. He also mentioned that approximately 9% of Hamilton's faculty identify themselves as lesbian, gay, or bisexual.

Most recently, Hamilton conducted 21 searches, 3 of them tenure-track, for faculty starting this semester; out of those, 5 faculty of color were hired, one of them tenure-track. Pillow also mentioned a recent change in College policy to allow hiring searches to be open-rank, where individual departments have the prerogative to hire senior faculty from other institutions as well as recent Ph.D. recipients.

After Associate Dean Pillow's presentation, Dean Thompson took the floor at the request of the faculty to speak about how the Dean of Students Office handles cases of student harassment. She spoke specifically on anonymous harassment, citing the recent case of a hate letter being slipped under the door of a homosexual student.

In such cases, reports are filed with both Campus Safety and the Kirkland Police Department, but that there are usually "no real leads and no clues" especially when there is any "delay in reporting" an incident.

Still, the Office does an investigation, interviewing students on the floor and making them "aware so they can keep an eye out" for any evidence that may come forward. Thompson said that there are plans for Campus Safety to go through additional training for cases like this, so they can make the most "supportive and appropriate response" when students report being harassed.

After the recent hate letter incident, Thompson said she also contacted an FBI agent in Utica about the case. The agent said there was nothing the College neglected to do in investigating the case, and that the agent "would be willing to assist us" if a similar case ever occurred again.

Thompson highlighted the need to concentrate on preventing similar incidents. In an effort to educate first-year students about the college community, she said the Dean of Students Office was looking into establishing first-year only residence halls next year but that they "have not figured out the buildings yet" or finalized the plans. (See page1 for more on this issue.)

President Stewart then gave a short update on the Task Force on Student and Academic Life and the recent Family Weekend. The Task Force has given her "their final draft, and is in the process of dotting the i's and crossing the t's," Stewart said, and that she will "share their final report with the community soon."

She also expressed her delight at the success of Family Weekend, and reported that parents she spoke with said they were "extremely happy" with their children's education.

Vice President for Communications and Development Richard Tantillo also spoke briefly about plans to combine Fallcoming and Family Weekend for 2005. He said his office had been considering this during the summer, but that since mid-September he has heard many concerns about combining the two. He said he will look at the College calendar again and may continue to hold them on two separate weekends.

Dean Paris took the floor for his reports on various faculty committees. The Committee on Academic Policy does not have a report on possible changes to the class schedule but will deliver one at the December meeting. The Committee is also considering altering the process by which departments go under an external review. Paris said that he'd like to see the reviews be "more of a planning exercise" than a review, which many even include entire departments going on "visits to other schools."

The Planning Committee has seen the initial plans for renovating parts of the north side of campus and will deliver their report next week. Academic Council will also be recommending a new "children in the workplace" policy soon.

The Council is also proposing that background checks for new faculty consist of three phone reference checks and a signed attestation form, rather than an electronic search on each applicant.

During the general announcement portion at the end of the meeting Professor of Anthropology Douglas Raybeck expressed concern at the Kirkland Project's recent appointment of Susan Rosenberg to a writer-in-residence position for a partial-credit class on memoir writing this spring. He said that her prior history of imprisonment and political activism was not properly identified in an email introducing the class to the campus.

Professor of Art History Steve Goldberg echoed Professor Raybeck's concerns, highlighting that the activities of various political groups of which she was a member were too violent to be considered as working for social justice. Nancy Rabinowitz, Director of the Kirkland project, said that Ms Rosenberg does not condone her past actions and that Rosenberg's work as an AIDS activist while imprisoned and subsequent career merit her invitation to teach at Hamilton.

Ms. Rosenberg was indicted on charges related to the robbery of a Brink's armored car but the indictment was dropped. She was later convicted of possessing large quantities of explosives and weapons, and served 15 years before being pardoned by President Clinton.

Freshman housing to "develop stronger class unity" on campus

from ***Housing****, page 1*

ham, Kirkland is also a possible first-year dorm. "We have to put together models and then talk to students," said Thompson.

Every student can relate either horror stories or cite lasting friendships evolving from their freshmen year roommates. All-freshmen housing, however, would force some first-years to live in singles.

"One thing that is troubling is the singles," said Thompson. "We don't have any buildings that don't include some singles." Fostering a strong sense of community could be enough to offset living alone, and allow freshmen the full experience of freshmen year.

"First year housing gives us the opportunity to have more structured input into students' first years," said Thompson. The living arrangement would be possibly enhanced by a mentoring program. "We can have a more positive experience for them and think of various ways to have positive role models."

At Williams College, freshmen students are arranged into "entries" of 25 students, and are guided by a junior adviser.

This position of a J.A. is a respected job on campus, and a similar program could be implemented at Hamilton. Thompson stressed, however, that Hamilton is not considering all-freshmen housing because of its presence at similar colleges, but rather to deal with specific issues at Hamilton.

"This past weekend, I had parents of first year students tell me that they were stunned by the amount of drinking that goes on here," said Thompson. "This would be one way to get at that part of the culture, which can have a negative affect on people."

Programming is a key aspect in the transition towards all-freshman housing: "We wouldn't simply house first year students together and call it a day," said Thompson. "We would have to create a program that would capitalize on the fact that students all live together."

All-freshmen housing could work in association with the first year forum. "We would like to have something like that; an opportunity to follow up on the things that we cover at orientation," said Thompson.

There are also several different ways that first-year housing could be organized; for example, one option is grouping students by their academic interest and then pairing them with a specific faculty member in that concentration.

The presence of first-year dorms at Hamilton next fall is a reality, but it is an "optimistic" goal, according to Thompson. Choosing which dorms will house freshmen, creating a program for first-year students, and organizing the housing system will take time and a lot of work.

"The question is, 'can we pull together a strong enough program to make this change?'" said Thompson.

Input from faculty, students, and administrators will be an important part of the transition from mixed housing to first year dorms. "We will take into account the conversations we have with students as we move forward," said Thompson.

Interested in writing for the all-important News section? Email Greta at grosenbe or Emma at efurman and we might just let you.

Students experience difficulty voting

by Alexandra Sear '05
MANAGING EDITOR

Young Han '06's quest to register to vote in Clinton may have received national attention, but ultimately proved futile.

Both Han and Kristina Orsini-Platzer '05 experienced complications when they went to vote, at different times, at the Clinton Arena on Tuesday: neither of their names appeared on the voter roll.

Orsini-Platzer's parents reside in Singapore, but she is a U.S. citizen. Hamilton is her only U.S. address, and her driver's license identifies her address as "Hamilton College, Clinton NY." She said that if she did not register here, she has no other address and would not be able to vote.

She was one of the first to take advantage of the ability to register in Clinton, doing so over the summer. In late August, she called the Oneida County Board of Elections to verify that she was registered and was informed she was. She and Han both also received written confirmation of their registrations.

Orsini-Platzer arrived to vote on Tuesdayand was told that she "was not registered according to their records" and that the voting staff suggested she "call the Oneida County Board of Elections and complain." She said she tried to get through to the Board repeatedly, but "either the phone was off the hook or the line was just busy all day." Han said that he still has not been able to find out exactly why his name was not on the voter roll.

Both Han and Orsini-Platzer were allowed to fill out an affidavit for a provisional ballot. Orsini-Platzer said she had to prove her residency at Hamilton and sign a statement. Han remarked that he "didn't even know if in the end my ballot was counted or not."

As Orsini-Platzer said, "it was not a normal voting process- I don't understand why I can't vote like a normal person. I don't think this is a coincidence." Han concurs, saying it was "odd that we were the two most vocal and insistent people, and we weren't allowed to vote regularly."

According to Han, students around the country experienced similar problems, some being told they were registered only to be denied at the polls, and some who applied for absentee ballots never received them. In the end, Han said, "a lot of people ended up being disenfranchised," though he added that the way the voting turned out in many states, those votes probably would not have made enough of a difference in the outcome.

Editorial

The Spectator

The Spectator

Tuesday's presidential election brought back the not-so-fond déjà vu of the 2000 election. Not only because of the re-election of President Bush, but because pf the lackluster turnout of the youth vote. Again.

Young voters, especially college students, were given multiple opportunities to participate in this election cycle. Major voting registration drives have been going on throughout the country all year long to reach out to this segment of the population. The election was on everyone's mind, and the youth were finally going to get involved and have their voice heard. Young people could not walk down the street in their hometown or across their own college campus without someone checking to make sure they had registered to vote. Students from out of state did not even have to worry about registering at home, they could register in the state they went to school in. Here at Hamilton, you could even register to vote while on the way to the diner.

It has never been easier for the young voters to participate. But in the end they opted out.

We were supposed to make the difference in this election. The excitement of young people was enough in theory enough to turn the tides of this election. While more people made it to the polls, still only 17% of Americans aged 18-29 cast their vote; the same as in 2000.

The most unfortunate part of this story is that these next four years are going to have a dramatic impact on our generation. Social security, homeland security, and reinstitution of a draft are all issues that are going to surface over and over again in the coming future. By choosing not to vote, the youth handed these decisions over to the older population of voters: people who have decided to make a choice in this election, but will not have to live with the consequences as long as we will.

In the end, there are a lot of reasons that John Kerry's campaign went awry, but we can certainly blame ourselves for part of it. We've heard a lot about the activism of the 60s, but we've never experienced anything like the level of political participation and concern that supposedly characterized that era. What are we supposed to do? We're so bogged down with work and theses and student loans that we can't take the time to think about the future because we're trying to make it through today. But it is only a few short months or years before we are off the Hill and have to personally deal with the consequences of this election.

Fortunately, political activism does not end at the polls. We can still impact our country's future through grassroots political means. We need to take advantages of the other non-voting options our democracy offers us so that our voices are heard in the end. But still, it's too bad that we as a generation left our fate in the hands of others.

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Kirkland Project hire calls academic freedom into question

*from **Rosenberg**, page 1*

kill and injure, and sentenced to 58 years in a federal prison.

During her prison sentence, Rosenberg worked as a prison peer advocate against HIV/AIDS, and wrote screenplays, short stories and essays. She also earned a Master's degree in writing from Antioch University, and taught adult continuing education courses. But despite reports that she was a model prisoner, Rosenberg was denied parole in 1998 because of her involvement in the Brink's robbery.

In 2001, after serving nearly 16 years in prison, Rosenberg was pardoned by Clinton. Since then, she has worked as a human rights, AIDS and anti-prison activist. Rosenberg currently works as an adjunct professor of literature at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice's Program of Thematic Studies.

She was unavailable for comment.

In the spring of 2004, Rosenberg came to Hamilton as a guest speaker for the Kirkland Project's series in Science, Technology and Democracy. Kirkland Project Director and Margaret Bundy Scott Professor of Comparative Literature Nancy Sorkin Rabinowitz described Rosenberg's reading as "moving and so gentle."

Inspired by her words and her story, Rabinowitz invited Rosenberg to Hamilton to serve as the 2005 artist-and-activist-in-residence, and suggested that Rosenberg teach a half-credit course in memoir writing and social justice. "I thought it would be a great experience for the students," said Rabinowitz. "She is living testimony that people change and grow through education."

The Committee on Academic Policy approved the course, said Professor of Art History Deborah Pokinski who chairs the Committee. Nevertheless, according to Pokinski, the Committee did not play any role in approving Rosenberg as an instructor. "I can't think of any time in which the CAP has anything to do with the faculty members being chosen to teach a course," said Pokinski. "Our main function is to approve the course itself."

Hiring those faculty members is instead the responsibility of the Dean of the Faculty. However, because Rosenberg was appointed to the post of artist-and-activist-in-residence, the Dean of the Faculty's Office did not review Rosenberg's materials.

"In the case of partial credit courses and short term positions I don't necessarily review applications," said Dean of the Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs David Paris. In the case of Rosenberg, the decision was that of the program head: Rabinowitz.

At the time of Rosenberg's hiring, neither the President of the College Joan Hinde Stewart or Paris had any information about her background.

But according to Meredith Bonham, Executive Assistant to the President, this procedure has now been changed. "From now on, the Dean of Faculty's Office will systematically check the resumes of all adjunct and part-time hires," she said.

Members of the faculty and administration have a wide variety of opinions regarding Rosenberg's hire. Some have voiced their opinion that bringing voices like Rosenberg's to Hamilton increases academic diversity on the Hill, something from which students can benefit.

"Academic freedom requires that we have an expansive view as to who gets to come and speak on campus," said Paris. "I may not agree with a person's point of view, but we bring them to Hamilton anyway because that's what we're all about.

"What ever people think of her history, Susan Rosenberg certainly has accomplished a lot and has done things that will benefit our students," Paris added.

Professor of Government Steve Orvis supports the decision to bring Rosenberg. "I don't think we should be choosing or excluding people based on their beliefs," said Orvis. "In the case of Rosenberg, I don't think we should eliminate people only because they espouse or have espoused violence.

"But Rosenberg has since publically denounced her past acts of violence, and will not be endangering students," added Orvis. "In fact, I think she is an interesting person for our students to talk to."

Paris echoed Orvis's statement regarding student safety. "Her presence on campus poses no risk for students. I am very confident about that," he said.

Rabinowitz hopes that Hamilton students and faculty will look beyond Rosenberg's past. "Does anyone of us want to be limited to the person that we were when we were young?" she asked. "What is important is what she can bring to our students."

But other members of the faculty have not taken as kindly to Rosenberg's hiring. "I think that it is terrible that we have a person like this teaching our students," said James S. Sherman Associate Professor of Government Philip Klinkner. "You have to remember that Susan Rosenberg was not convicted for a minor violation of the law. She clearly has a history of violence."

Klinkner believes that Rosenberg's hiring raises questions about the standards for hiring instructors at Hamilton. "This is an opportunity for students, faculty and staff at Hamilton to question what type of school this is," said Klinkner. "What is the standard for being an educator at Hamilton College? Will we just hire anybody even if they have a violent past? If we hire Susan Rosenberg, who is next? Terry Nichols?"

For Associate Professor of Art History Steven Goldberg, Rosenberg's hiring is a "glaring example" of why Hamilton needs to conduct faculty background checks. The College currently conducts background checks when hiring certain members of the staff, but not faculty members. At last month's faculty meeting, Vice President for Administration and Finance Karen Leach proposed a plan to require a similar background check for faculty members. The plan met with disapproval, and specifics are still being discussed.

But in Goldberg's opinion, background checks should be mandated for all employees of the College. "At Hamilton, we always seem to be teaching our students about the importance of class equity," said Goldberg. "The policy, as it stands now, is simply elitist."

Goldberg also feels that Rosenberg's appointment is "wrong in principle" and "suicidal in a Capital Campaign year."

Publius Virgilius Rogers Professor of American History Robert Paquette also believes that Rosenberg's hiring will affect this year's Capital Campaign. "Once this story breaks, and it will, it will dramatically impact one of most ambitious fund raising attempts in Hamilton's history," he said.

Paquette has said that he is deeply concerned over a number of issues relating to Rosenberg's hire. One such issue is the hiring of an activist-in-residence.

"There is a difference between advocacy and scholarship. If we are going to bring an activist-in-residence to this college, then I would seriously ask the President to change our mission statement," he said, noting that the College defines its mission as a commitment to the intellectual and personal development of its students. "Otherwise we are perpetuating a fraud."

VOX discusses "hook up culture" at Hamilton

*from **Sex**, page 2*

promotes reckless behavior. "When you teach a person how to drive, it's not with the intention of putting them behind the wheel to go crazy. Sex ed is the same thing," she said.

Crusan began the discussion with the idea of consent, a topic which is not clearly defined when alcohol or drugs are involved. "You have to be conscious and able to voice your consent," she said. "There's a fuzzy line if two people are blacked out."

Crusan discussed the ways in which to bring up consent without making the situation awkward or ruining the mood.

Leatherman led the discussion on the methods for safe sex. "The reality is that if you're sexually active there is a 70 percent chance you will get an STD before you graduate college," she said. "The chief thing to remember is that there is nothing sexy about an STD or a pregnancy. All [methods of protection] are relatively cheap and can literally save your life."

"Condoms have definitely become more exciting in the last decade or so," Leatherman said. "There are a variety of flavors, colored ones, lubricated and non-lubricated, studded, and glow-in-the-dark ones." Condoms are available at the Health Center, as are dental dams, which are used for oral sex on women.

According to Leatherman, students should only use latex, silicone, or water-based lubricants. Other materials compromise the integrity of the condom. Furthermore, although many students think it is a good idea for a male to carry a condom in his wallet, it can actually damage the condom. "For a guy to carry around a condom in a wallet is the worse thing because his body can weaken the material," McBride said. "For a girl to carry one in her purse does not make her a whore. It is much safer, even if you aren't sexually active."

McBride talked about the aftermath of sex and the "hook up culture." She stressed the importance of getting tested for STDs and STIs, most of which can be detected either by Planned Parenthood in Utica or at the Health Center.

If a student feels she has been raped or sexually harassed, "there are some really important and great options we can use at Hamilton, like SASA and the Harassment Grievances Board," McBride said. Students can call extension 4000 to speak with counselors or extension 5000 to be connected to the YWCA Rape Crisis Center. Students also have the option of reporting the assault to be included in the annual harassment statistics without having to release their name.

Emergency contraception is one option in cases of unsafe sex or broken condoms. McBride said that EC is not related to abortion, as many may think. Instead, it kills the embryo before it has a chance to form. "EC is basically a high dose of hormones. It's the equivalent of taking a concentrated dose of birth control," she said. "If taken within five days of unprotected intercourse, it can really reduce the risk of pregnancy, but it's more effective the sooner you take it."

She also presented the idea of the "hook up culture" and the idea of sex as a sport. She talked about how a hook up is an intimate experience ruined by the awkwardness of seeing the person in class the next day. She emphasized that this culture is not unique to Hamilton, and suggested that is has developed because of the high rate of divorce.

Pink triangles show support for GLBT community

*from **Triangles**, page 2*

that they were a response to the recent hate crimes. He said he supported the cause but did not have a triangle, nor did he know where he could get one.

The triangles haven't appeared on a lot of doors and, as several students expressed, there is some confusion about whether the triangles are professing a "safe haven" for students who feel at risk, allegiance to the GLBT or stating that a student living in that room is part of the GLBT community.

Fiona Rigby '08 said, "the triangles are a good cause and people should be more aware of what's going on campus whether or not they agree with the situation. Awareness is essential, but I don't feel that a lot of people get the point of the triangles."

Because students do not understand the message of the triangles or aren't even aware of the stickers in the first place, the message being sent does not have the profound impact on the community that Rainbow Alliance and the Dean's office hoped for.

As Nancy Thompson promised, a task force is being created to "explore GLBT issues on campus and propose ways that we can be a safe, welcoming, and inclusive community for all." We can only hope that the enthusiastic intent behind the pink triangles can translate into equally enthusiastic responses from the community and task force.

Insights and Ideas

Democrats, we have reasons to be afraid, but more to fight on

by Jon Kuhl '06
DC CORRESPONDENT

My country has let me down. As I look at the outcome of the elections on Tuesday (presidential, congressional, senatorial, gubernatorial and the ballot initiatives), I am forced to question who my countrymen are, and what they believe. More than the 2000 election, where I was disappointed, in this election, I was forced to recognize the fact that the majority of this country does not share my values.

Although pained, I am above all else a person who loves my country. Reading about our founding fathers, the genius of our system of government, and the eternal sense of optimism that has accompanied our nation's history, I am forever in awe of America. What saddens me now, however, is the fear that our country is shifting gears, and heading in a fatally wrong direction.

Beginning with the presidential election, it seems this country is either stupidly content with the current state of affairs, or ignorant of them. When given the chance to take our nation in a new direction, we instead reelected a man who has single-handedly: destroyed our international prestige, committed (and lost) thousands of soldiers to a war that he still struggles to find an honest justification for, lost a significant number of jobs, turned budget surpluses into deficits, worsened our education system, crushed our civil liberties, denied any progress to the field of healthcare, and further damaged our environment.

Beyond the litany of blunders that I have just mentioned, the choice between the two candidates was defined by even more issues. As Chief Justice of the Supreme Court William Rehnquist has so aptly demonstrated, the makeup of the Supreme Court is now very much at stake. Of the current six-justice majority upholding a woman's right to choose, justices Stevens (age 84) and O'Connor (age 74) are now considered likely to step down relatively soon. If President Bush is able to appoint these justices' successors, along with Rehnquist's replacement, justices Scalia and Thomas would join them in overturning Roe v. Wade.

Looking beyond the presidential election, the Republicans have been successful in electing some of the most radical people in modern politics. In South Carolina for example, newly elected Senator Jim DeMint stated in a debate that along with single mothers, "If a person is a practicing homosexual, they should not be teaching in our schools."

On the issue of homosexuality, 11 states passed amendments to their constitutions banning same-sex marriages. Passing overwhelmingly in most states, the documents written to govern and protect citizens are now the same documents that blatantly support bigotry.

The issues I have just mentioned are nothing new, but the balance of power favoring one side versus the other is giving the Republicans overwhelming power. Perhaps even scarier is how the Republicans choose to use this unchecked power. Filtering out the disingenuous rhetoric about bringing our country together, conservatives are now salivating over their control of literally all three branches of our government. With this control, Republicans have made little secret about their plans to aggressively pursue their goals.

So where does this leave us? Along with questioning what this country's values really are, we are now faced with deciding between defeatism and activism. A product of my country, I turn to activism and optimism. Divisions in our country have always existed, sometimes to the point where functioning as one nation becomes impossible. In the end though, we survive, and we move on. While it is tempting to be shortsighted about our losses this election, from a broader perspective, I am confident the winds will eventually change in our direction.

Looking ahead, we have reasons to be afraid during the next few years, but we have more reasons to keep fighting.

Where's my mommy?

An introspective on being parentless on Family Weekend

by Emily Byron '07
I&I CONTRIBUTOR

After assuring my parents that I would remain emotionally stable if they did not visit on Family Weekend, and that I would appreciate a visit equally as much at a different time in the semester, I began to notice an essential part of the weekend that I had originally been missing.

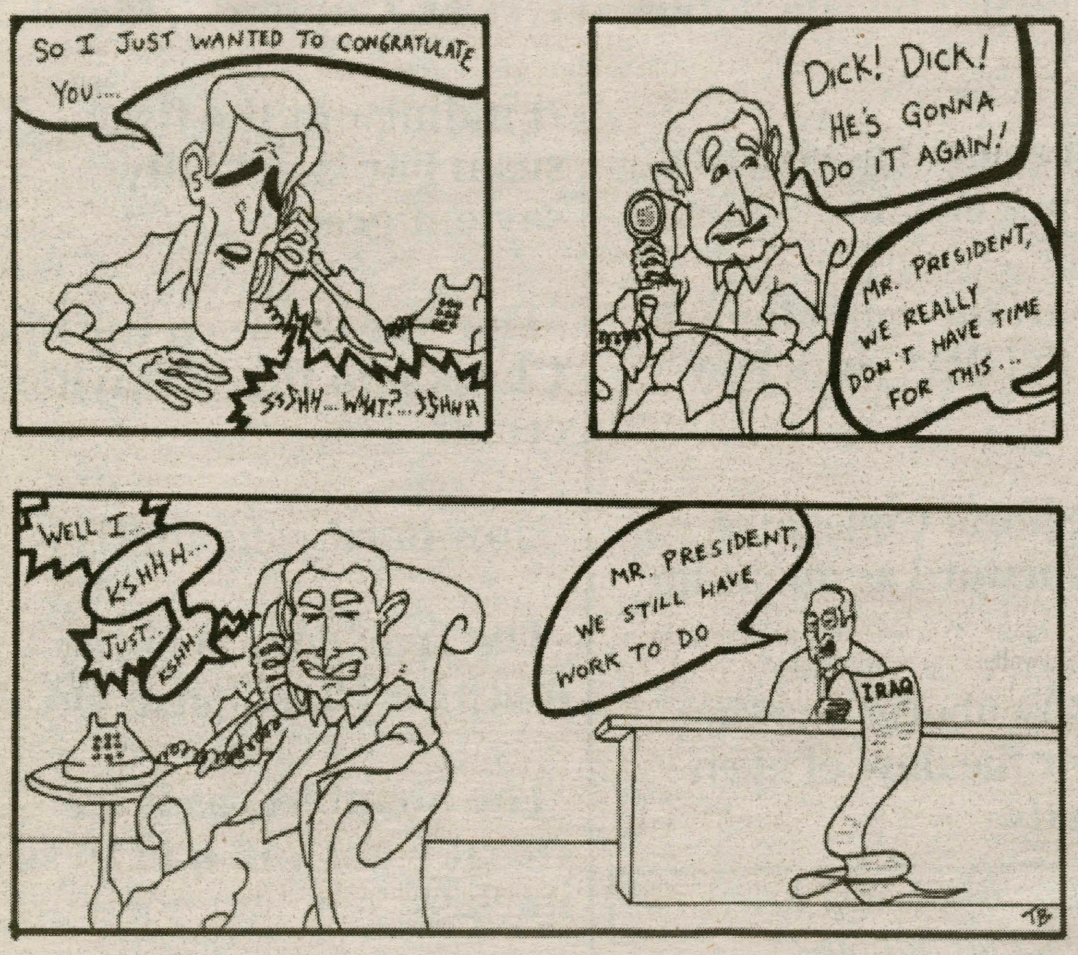
Family Weekend last year was a crazed, stressful time during which I subjected my family to my limited knowledge of Utica cuisine, awkwardly introduced my parents to acquaintances, and commissioned my step-dad to climb over my roommates and their families to install bookshelves in our room. Blinding myself to the fun my friends and I had introducing our families to each other, I could only remember the stress of running around to meet everyone, not having time to talk and being carried by throngs of people to and from campus events.

With these memories in mind, I decided early in the year that I would be one of the many students who told their families to avoid the masses and not attend. From asking older friends at other schools, I had gotten the general impression that family weekends were an excuse for first-time parents of freshmen to engage in events that supposedly represent actual student life at college. Surprising to me was the fact that I was the stark minority at Hamilton. It turned out that all of my friends' families were coming with the exception of one, and she was going home. So I prepared myself to be unnecessarily pitied.

As this past weekend approached, my nostalgia for the family grew, but I suppressed my feelings of regret for not urging them to visit in the prearranged time slot. Although I looked forward to spending time with my friends' parents and reaping some good meals, I felt as though there would be something significant missing. When my mom told me their plans to visit next weekend, my mood immediately lifted. Happy to be reminded that my family missed me, I was also relieved to know that seeing

*see **Mommy**, page 8*

Drawing Criticism by Tom Booth '06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Coming to terms with the results of the 2004 election

by Britten Chase '05
I&I EDITOR

Well America, in the wise and wonderful words of Daily Show journalist Samantha Bee, "I'm going to go drown myself in a bucket now. Thanks for that."

The Democrats lost the presidency. And the Senate (by more (including senate minority leader Tom Daschle's seat(what a tool(sigh)))). And the House. And there is no hope for the Supreme Court.

To Republicans everywhere: Good job...I guess. If it makes you feel any better than you are already feeling (which is probably way too good), as a staunch Democrat, I don't think I've been this demoralized since four years ago.

But four years ago was different. See, we completely elected George W. Bush by accident. Seriously. When you take into account all the random events that happened in Florida (chads, etc.), there is no way that we meant to do that. This time he got the majority of the vote? It's almost like we wanted him in office.

Or something.

And four years ago we were a different people too. I remember after the Supreme Court handed down its decision I wasn't that upset. The 2000 election had been a long process, and I was glad it was over. I remember thinking to myself, "Self, it's going to be ok. Maybe nothing will happen in the next four years."

And then...well...so much for that. 9/11. Patriot Acts, tax breaks, defecits, wars, casualites, "coalitions" (read: Poland), backdoor drafts, prisoner abuse scandals and no Osama.

We were lucky though. Things were bad but we had the chance to change the way this country was headed. We could have fixed it.

But we blew it.

Friends, I am here to help. Why? Because no one is happy right now.

Have you checked your away messages recently?

You'd have thought everyone's puppy just got run over.

But your puppy has not died. At least not yet. You are all going through a wide variety of emotions, so let me talk you through what you will experience for the next good long while.

First there is anger: directed straight toward the value laden state of Arkansas, where it is still ok to marry your brother, just not your sister. I'm not for gay marragie either, but I think an amendment banning it is ridiculously reactionary. I'm also mad at Colorado, where there was so much speculation that Kerry would shock the world and then...not so much. The 303 let us down again. Also, New Hampshire which finally went for the Democrats, but about four years too late. Live free or die? Go smoke a bowl, then we'll discuss. There is Florida, where apparently Bush got a higher Jewish vote than any other Republican presidential candidate in a while (A note to Florida Jews, from a fellow Jew: Bush may be supportive of Israel, but that is because it has to be in the hands of the Jews so that Jesus can come back and kill us all. Doesn't that bother you?). And...of course...Ohio. For a swing state, they sure suck at swiniging.

Then you will go through denial. There are people out there that want Kerry to keep fighting. Now despite what people said, you have to admit that Kerry ended up being a great candidate and he would have been a fantastic president. While there must be some legal loophole out there somewhere, he has done the right thing in ending this now.

Then there is the strong urge to go to Alaska. Just to see ANWR before they start drilling (any day now).

And....then there's probably a little more anger.

Then there is searching for consolation. If only one blue could win this week, would you rather it be John Kerry or the Hamilton women's soccer team? Think before you answer. Because on the one hand, while it would be great to see Bush fall from grace, that is just not going to happen. So wouldn't it be so awesome to see Skidmore, Union, and William Smith stumble and fall...all in the same weekend?

Huh.

That does sound like fun.

Your final emotion will probably be extreme reactionism. I have heard of this in many forms. Everything from moving to Canada (north) to having us all go get abortions. Doesn't matter if you're pregnent. Or female, really. Just spite the president.

This is about where I stand right now. Debating the move. Personally, as much as I think Canada is ok, I can't move out. I love my country like no other.

That's what makes this so difficult. I personally am so proud to be an American, but I am so frusterated with the direction it is taking. I love our values, but all of a sudden it's looking like our values switched. We used to be about freedom and tolerance, now we're about intolerance and arrogance.

Four more years of Team Bush? Four more years of being called unpatriotic for not agreeing with his leadership. I hate it when they do that. First off, its not a competition, but if it was I'd be tied for most patriotic along with most people in this country. But patriotic doesn't mean that I go along with everything that is said. Patriotic for me means loving my country but having standards that it must live up to. And these standards do not include ignorance, preemptiveness, corporate welfare and Christianity above all others.

It hurts to see this country turn into everything I do not want it to become. I became a government major because politics is such a smooth ride to being able to affect change. Make the world a better place and all. Now I look at my federal level representation and realize that it doesn't matter how hard I work. If it doesn't fit into a major plan, it's not going to happen.

It was only a few weeks ago help was on the way. Now what?

I'm just not sure.

Where's my mommy?

*from **Mommy**, page 8*

me at school was important to them as well. However, as I willed the vibrant, peaking leaves to hang on for one week longer, I started to realize that Family Weekend is about more than tours, the President's address, and giving parents an opportunity to grill us about future plans.

What I'm attempting to get at is that I now realize that our Family Weekend, like Hamilton, is unique. I hope that the bonds my parents began to develop with other parents last year continue to grow. Although this campus has more problems than I'd like to admit or that I know the solutions for, it's at least comforting to see that there is a sense of community here that students, faculty and administration, alumni, and families seem to want to uphold. While I am excited to have my parents visit this coming Sunday, I'll look forward to being with them and other families on future Family Weekends.

Thumbs Up

-No partisan election jokes

-Your parents not finding your secret stash

-Having a president on campus that doesn't wear day-glo tights

-The Streaking Team putting Hamilton College on the map: one set of jingling genitalia at a time

-Susan Rosenberg's other class: License Plate Lettering 101

Thumbs Down

-Seeing your parents during your Saturday morning walk of shame

-Popped collars: as cool as a thumb tack enema

-HALO II: the worst thing to happen to GPAs since Keystone

-The Electoral College: as straightforward as quantum physics

-Susan Rosenberg: making us long for the days of alien cloning lady

by Ryan Burns '05, Jeff Friedman '05, and Babbit 23

Who Cares?

-The number of ATX sisters on Clinton's rider

-Finding out the fish at the sushi bar is actually soylent green

-The war between the Spell Check and the Womyn's center

-How hard *your* thesis is

-The Tree: done about as much for Hamilton as O.U.R.

-The Soapbox: as if we cared what you had to say in class

The master plan for the new ELS

by Kristy Hague '05
FEATURES WRITER

Earlier this year, seniors overwhelmingly voted to donate their senior class gift funds to the renovation of the Emerson Literary Society (ELS) building into a new student center.

Currently, ELS provides classroom space on the ground floor and a small social space in the basement while the second and third floors are not in use. The college hopes to make ELS into a new student center where the surrounding Clinton community would also feel welcome.

The basic plan, costing approximately three million dollars, includes adding meeting rooms, bringing the Student Activities Offices into the new center and adding another Opus-like coffee shop. Also, Student Assembly and other student organizations would be relocated to the new center. The front of ELS will be turned toward Beinecke Student Activity Village creating a sense of connection between the two student centers.

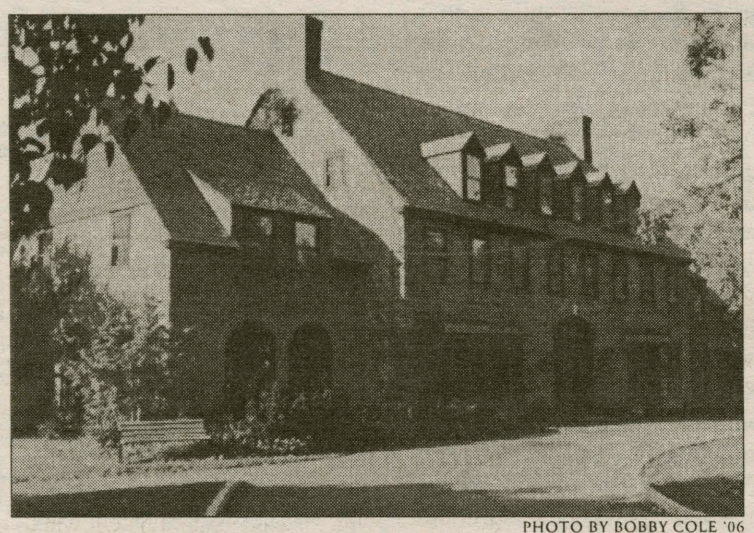

PHOTO BY BOBBY COLE '06

ELS as it stands today, awaiting renovation.

In addition, the senior class will help fund an outdoor patio area at the entrance of the building. The senior class plans to pay for landscaping this area and adding seating areas much like those outside of Commons.

Already, ELS was one of the primary focuses of the "Excelsior: The Campaign for Hamilton," a new capital campaign launched by the alumni and development sectors in the Communication and Development offices. However, 70 percent of the senior class voted to contribute their gift funds to the renovation of the building. Construction on ELS will begin in the next one to three years and will be complete within five years

By the time the class of 2005 comes back for their five year reunion, the ELS facility they donated to will be up and running. "I chose to give

see ***ELS***, page 10

(More) Senior Fellows 04-05

by Danielle Sclafani '08
FEATURES WRITER

The following is a continuation of an article, first published in the Octbber 29 issue of *The Spectator*, which highlights each of the six senior fellow winners.

Emily Kerr
Project Title: "How Food is Fixed: Structural Inequalities of the Food System and New Initiatives in Providing Solution"
Principle Advisors: Carol Drogus, Alan Cafruny
Co-Advisors: Derek Jones, Henry Rutz

Emily Kerr's project looks at the food "system": the way food is produced, traded, and consumed, and how the structures of this system are unfair in many different ways. She says, "I am trying to determine how these structural inequalities create communities that experience malnutrition and food insecurity in both developing countries and here in the US.

"In other words, there is plenty of food produced, but there is structural inequality in the system that causes the malnutrition that so much of the world experiences. 1/5 of US people are food insecure and 1/3 of the world is," Kerr explains.

Emily is specifically focusing her project on the Dominican Republic and in Dominican communities in New York City but is also exploring a business/non-profit model that, as she puts it, "would provide an alternative or replacement to this system, encouraging fair and sustainable food production and food secure communities."

A World Politics major, Emily became interested in the food system through work she has done in the Dominican Republic and in New York City. "For a long time I had no idea what I wanted to do career-wise," says Emily, "but my experiences in the Dominican Republic and in NYC brought to my attention the connections among different problems related to the production and consumption of food. I feel strongly that what we eat reflects and can influence what we experience in other parts of our lives. I have become increasingly aware of the personal and even global repercussions of every thing we eat; for good or for bad."

After graduation, she plans to continue this work, leading a business or a non-profit.

At Hamilton, Emily is an ICWES student director, plays basketball, practices and teaches yoga, works, and founded Rhymelab.

Thomas Acampora
Project Title: "The Relationship Between Homosexuality and Colonialism in the British Empire, 1850-1950"
Principal Advisor: Esther Kanipe
Co-Advisor: Gillian Gane

An English and History double major, Thomas Acampora's project first emerged out a final project he had completed for a history seminar on British photography. "I was examining several photographs of E.M. Forster and Virginia Woolf, which had them dressed up in colonial drag. I had been reading both of their writings for some literature courses and began to draw connections between their writing, the pictures, their politics and potentially their sexuality. I wanted to explore that as well as other figures and areas related to it."

For his Fellowhsip, Acampora is doing research about issues of sexuality-specifically homosexuality-in the context of British colonialism from about1850-1950 through historical and literary analysis. "I have done work in the archives in London -the Public Record Office and the British Library, Oriental and Indian Office Collections-to do some historical work trying to trace both official and private attitudes towards homosexuality within the colonial context. I am [also] doing a literary and historical study of specific individuals within this context, such as E.M. Forster, T.E. Lawrence (Lawrence of Arabia), Roger Casement and others."

Acampora's advisors, Ester Kanipe and Gillian Gane, are professors he knows both in and out of class; he has taken classes with both professors, and the professors are his academic advi

see ***Senior Fellows***, page 11

THIS WEEK IN HAMILTON HISTORY

Hill voters challenged as courts hold back decision
November 5, 1971

On Election Day, November 2, the right to vote of six Hamilton and Kirkland students was challenged by the officials at the Clinton polls, on the grounds that these students did not fulfill the residency requirements of Oneida county. The students were allowed to vote, but their votes would not have been tallied if any of the electoral races were so close that a recount and possible revote were necessary, in accordance with the standard voting regulations concerning so-called "challenged votes."

During the May 3 registration drive on campus, nearly 120 students registered as occupants of Oneida County by virtue of their college dormitory residences. In July, the New York State passed a residency law which ruled that college dormitories were not suitable as permanent addresses.

Since the outset of the school year, students from many college in this area banded together with lawyer Michael Getnick of the Oneida county Legal Aid Society and two lawyers from the New York Civil Liberties Union, to challenge the constitutionality of the Legislature's new residence law.

On October 12, James O'Donnell of the New York State Supreme Court ruled against the students. On October 18, the students appealed the decision to the New York State Court of Appeals. A decision has not yet been reached.

Howard Pariser '73, spokesman for the Hamilton and Kirkland students involved, said that "by not reading a decision before Election Day the judge essentially ruled against us."

Hitchhiking stickers available
November 12, 1976

Hitchhiking stickers are available in the Office of Student Affairs. The hitchhiking sticker program has been divised to assist students in identifying "safe" autos as they hitchhike to and from the village.

Participants in the program will affix the bright orange stickers to their front, right side window. The stickers are numbered and have the Kirkland College seal printed on its reverse side. When a student enters an auto she or he will be quickly able to note the number of the sticker.

The program is entirely voluntary, and individuals wishing to participate in the program are asked to bring the following to the Kirkland Student Affairs Office: an auto registration stub, the number of their Hamilton or Kirkland parking permit, their driver's license and I.D. card for positive identification.

We encourage members of the community to participate in the program and urge students to accept rides only from autos with the stickers.

Apple introduces updated mac
November 16, 1990

Have you been scanning the market for a new computer? If so, you are in luck. The new Macintosh Classic 2/40 may be just what you need, and you can get it for a super discounted price through Hamilton.

The Classic, which came out a month ago, is an up-graded version of the Mac SE/30 4/80. The Classic is 20-25% faster, has a stronger power supply, a cooling fan, and it runs on fewer parts. Also, the Classic is equipped with a more responsive keyboard and mouse.

There are two options available for the Classic's disk drive: a 2 MegaByte hard disk or a simple floppy disk. The college recommends the hard drive over the floppy disk system.

The classic does have some drawbacks. It can't be upgraded to an SE/30, and it has no expansion slot. Although the Classic will operate on the current system software, it will not be able to fully utalize future software.

The price of the Classic through Hamilton is $1,199 as opposed to the $1,800 market price. Students may find this discount appealing. Other computers that the college sells include the MacSE/30 4/80 for $3,014, and the MacSE/30 1/40 for $2,246.

Future outings for HOC

by Theresa Fisher '08
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

Many students complain that Hamilton is in the middle of nowhere, a pocket of academia in the wilderness. The Hamilton Outing Club (HOC)does not perpetuate this complaint; instead, they take advantage of it. HOC's purpose, as member Addie Liddic '06 explains, is to "make the outdoors more accessible to the student body and to help people gain an appreciation of the world around us."

After visiting the HOC headquarters, located in the basement of Benedict, it is evident that the club is successful in its pursuits. The club attempts to engage in whatever its members are interested, such as climbing (indoors and out), cross country skiing, kayaking and hiking.

While HOC does announce trips by way of campus email when it has leaders available , its members encourage students who are interested in the outdoors not to wait for the announced trips, but to attend HOC's open hours on Monday nights and take it upon themselves to organize their own trips. The experienced members of HOC will help those interested in going on their own trips by loaning them appropriate gear, helping them map their journey, publicizing it to the Hamilton community and sometimes paying for their transportation to their desired location. Junior Andy Glossner '06 says, "HOC has a tremendous amount of gear; all you have to do is ask!"

In addition to the trips on which the members decide, there are certain trips on which the club ventures each year, such as the 46 peaks trip. The goal of this late-September excursion is to get at least one student on each high peak in the Adirondacks. Freshman Olivia Vargo '08, who climbed White Face Mountain, explained the rewards of the trip: "It was very cold and we com plained all the way up the mountain. We didn't realize how long and hard a hike it would be, but when we got to the top, the view of the lake and the valley made all the effort worthwhile."

Besides 46 Peaks, HOC has thus far ventured on kayaking trips in the Adirondacks and in Rochester, and plans many more expeditions for the remainder of the year. Over the upcoming weekend, HOC is planning to hike in the high peaks of the Adirondacks. While a projected five students will attend this weekend's trip, a maximum of eight members are allowed to go on each trip. The club plans to leave on Saturday afternoon for the high peaks, hike a few miles and set up camp before dark. On Sunday they will try to hike a peak or two, depending on the feelings of the participants, and then return to campus Sunday evening.

HOC is also planning several trips and activities for later this year. November 20-21, they will host a Wilderness first aid training seminar in the Red Pit (KJ109). Certified instructors will teach students the basics of outdoor safety and first aid. The course is very beneficial for anyone looking to work at as a camp counselor, or in any other outdoors situation. For $89 particpants are provided with a two year first-aid certification. To sign up, students should contact aglossne@hamilton.edu or go to HOC's Monday night open hours.

Projected upcoming trips include mountaineering in Ecuador over December break. HOC also plans to sponsor bringing the Bamph film festival to Hamilton during the spring. For those who enjoy spending time outdoors, or for those who would like to begin taking advantage of the entertainment that nature provides us, HOC offers opportunities for local and even international outings.

Seniors donate towards ELS

from ***ELS***, page 9

money to ELS because it's inconvenient to have Student Activities Offices and organizations so far removed from Beinecke. I think centralizing the student services on campus would really improve student involvement," said one senior class member.

The class had the option to sponsor several different features of the new building, including a stage next to the coffee shop, a meeting room, or an outdoor patio area. The senior gift committee elected to donate funds to the outdoor area for several reasons. Firstly, a general campus beautification project was the runner up in senior gift voting and adding an outdoor area to the new ELS offered an excellent compromise.

In addition, Ginny Smith, Senior Gift Co-Chair, noted that "[the senior class] could leave more of our mark on the outside of the building than on a plaque hanging in a nondescript room in the building."

Specifically, the senior class hopes to add benches and entrance stairs to the outdoor area surrounding ELS. The senior class gift will also fund an extension of the Martin's Way brick pathway to ELS.

The last of the money will help to landscape the area around the entrance of ELS to create an even nicer atmosphere.

A tradition since 1982, the senior class gift has donated some prominent landmarks on the Hamilton College campus. Last year, the seniors donated money to the future fitness center endowment fund while previous years gave money for the stone Hamilton College sign at the bottom of the hill, the windmill on Minor Field and the clock on Martin's Way. Before 1982, some classes donated boulders engraved with their class year, which are placed randomly across campus. 1982 marked the first year that a formal senior gift committee was organized.

The senior gift committee projects that it will raise about 20,000 dollars in funds for the new ELS building. In recent years, the senior class has given about 10,000 dollars while the Trustees donate the remaining money as an incentive.

The senior gift committee has to meet several important deadlines in order to receive money from the Trustees. If 25 percent of the senior class has donated by November 12, the first deadline, then the Trustees will contribute between 1,000 and 2,000 dollars. Seniors who donate money before the November 12 deadline, will receive a five percent discount on their senior week pass. At later dates in the school year, the committee will have to reach 50, 75, and 90 percent participation rates in order to receive more funds from the Trustees.

All donating seniors will receive some form of Hamilton paraphernalia, which could be a t-shirt, water glass or coffee mug (in keeping with the spirit of the new ELS coffee shop).

This year's senior gift committee hopes to reach a 100 percent class participation, beating the previous high of 97.2 percent. Smith is optimistic that everyone in the class will donate money because the vast majority of the class voted on the gift and campaign slogan.

When asked about the importance of the senior gift tradition, Smith replied, "For me, I had such a great time at Hamilton that I want to give back to the school and have future students use even better facilities," echoing the sentiments of many senior class members.

In addition, the "senior gift is our first chance to be philanthropic, which is something that we promote and instill in people over the course of a lifetime," said Smith.

Hamilton Student Art League: redefining "artsy" on the Hill

by Annie Bowler '08
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

When most Hamilton students think about art on campus, they think about the Dark Side, about the old Kirkland college and the cement buildings that hardly exude an artistic flare. This year however, a campus organization known as the Student Art League has changed these petty stereotypes and has brought a strong artistic community back to the Hill.

Founded four years ago, the club struggled to stay a float. It was founded in reaction to the senior art show being removed from Emerson Gallery. Current president Kelly Stryker was a freshman when all this happened, and has watched the group grow and develop. Currently the Art League has 38 members, ten of which are actively involved in the groups weekly meetings and various activities. While some of the members are declared Art majors, there is a variety of other concentrations represented by the group. Students involved study anything from dance to world politics or french, making the group a community of art enthusiasts and not necessarily art majors. This year a large freshmen contingent has helped hold the club together; the majority of its members graduated last spring.

When asked the purpose of the Student Art League, Stryker stated "our primary goal is to promote and encourage the arts at Hamilton." She went on to explain that the club wished to make all forms of art accessible to the college community. Each week members meet and discuss the event that they are planing for that week. They spend time dividing up responsibilities, and then allow for new ideas to be shared. This week the group is concentrating on the art show that is being run along side Culturefest and on the portfolio workshop that is taking place next week. This year has marked enormous growth in the club's ability to put on art shows. In the past, inability to get budgeting and space prevented the Art League from organizing such events. With enthusiastic new members, the club decided that the winter arts festival was too long to wait to have an art show, and so with a little hurried planing the members were able to pull together a student art show for Parents Weekend. The show was held in Emerson Gallery complete with artistic biographies and a catered reception. Freshman Liz Pinnie organized the reception and came up with the idea of posting a brief biography of the artists being showcased. This allowed viewers to see the diversity of majors and students that are interested in the arts at Hamilton. Many of the show's work was from classes taken on campus and although of similar topics each piece was very specific to the artists style. About the show Stryker said, "the show got an excellent response and now we are beginning to see the potential for an artistic community at Hamilton."

Other events that the club has participated in this year include a costume designing workshop in conjunction with study buddies and another art show to be held later this month. The club spends a lot of time collaborating with other clubs. One such example was the possibility of dancers working with musicians in an improv act.

The club encourages work of this kind due in large part because art classes at Hamilton are so hard to get into. One of the major concerns of the group is that students interesting in pursuing artistic endeavors at college will be unable to do so. The Student Art League strives to prevent this from happening. Another show will be held in January with the Winter Arts Festival. They hope to provide a show that can include all forms of art including spaces for performance arts. Stryker stated that the group was working with faculty to make this a possibility. The group is also working to start an after-school program at an area middle school.

Due to the goals of the Student Art League, students are no longer bound to the dark side if they wish to be surrounded by Hamilton's artistic community. Instead the interest and activity of the college's artists and art enthusiasts spreads all over the campus.

Interested in joining the Student Art League?
contact
Kelly Stryker at kstryker@hamilton.edu for more information about meeting times.

Want to submit your artwork to Hamilton student art shows? Check your e-mail for information about upcoming events!

Hogwarts School of Wizardry comes to the Hill

by Meghan Horman '07
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

It is a frigid, blustery night on campus as you exit Commons to return to you are pseudo-castle stone dwelling a.k.a South. The full moon gives campus a surreal, mysterious feeling as you hear the fallen leafs shuffle beneath your feet. If only there were wizards flying above on broomsticks or unicorns trotting about you might mistake Hamilton for Hogwarts, the School of Witchcraft and Wizardry in J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series. This weekend Hamilton will resemble Hogwarts more closely than ever when students take on their annual Hogwarts at Hamilton event.

Hogwarts at Hamilton was started three years ago by four Harry Potter fanatics who envisioned an event that would temporarily transform Hamilton into the magical, mysterious school of wizardry. Jamie Abaied '04, Joan Booth '04, Maryellen Chainey '04 and Marlene Aibinder '04 hoped to provide a fun event for the families of faculty and of the local community. That year only seven people participated in the event yet and an astonishing 150 people showed up to partake in the tour. The initial success and overwhelming interest demonstrated by the first year's attendees have motivated students to expand upon this popular event.

This year more than 30 students plan to participate in the Hogwarts at Hamilton open house. Children, students, faculty and community members who attend Hogwarts at Hamilton this weekend will be treated like prospective students of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Groups will be led on hour-long tours of Hogwarts a.k.a. ELS. During this time, tourists should expect to view a wide array of exciting scenes from the Harry Potter books. The tour will commence with an opening wizard duel between different house members to catch people's attention. Groups will then proceed to view scenes from the common rooms of Gryffindor or Slytherin in which student participants will take on the roles of characters from the book. Tours will also consist of sitting in on an array of classes ranging from Professor Snape's Potions Class to Professor Sprout's Herbology Class.

Tour Times

Friday 6-10 PM
Saturday 5-9 PM
Sunday 2-3 PM

Students participating in Hogwarts Hamilton were given the option of requesting a particular character from the Harry Potter books that he/she preferred to play. The most important determinant of designating certain characters to certain students though was not his/her own preference, but whether or not he/she physically resembled that character. After all, it is important for Hogwarts at Hamilton to be realistic for the children who truly believe students to be the actually Harry Potter characters. Once the cast list was determined, Hogwarts at Hamilton held "character workshops" in order to prepare for the main event. According to Michael Blasie '07, this year's Harry Potter, character workshops taught students how to believably portray the characters one is playing in addition to how to believable react to other characters. Hence, character workshops would frown upon any sort of civil interactions between Harry Potter and his rival Draco Malfoy. According to Blasie, "We are provided with a general outline of what is going to happen in each scene, but we do a lot of improvisation."

Hogwarts at Hamilton puts a great deal of effort into authenticating this event to make it closely resemble the Harry Potter books. Thus, students diligently prepared costumes and decorations that will allow children to believe they truly are at Hogwarts. Acting though, may be one of the most important factors in authenticating the Harry Potter scenes. "You always have to stay in character to ensure that kids really believe you are the character you're playing," said Blasie. Actors have to make sure to use their British accents and never to step out of character, even when they see their friends or professors.

Hogwarts at Hamilton is great way for the Hamilton students to interact with faculty and their families and the local community. Over the past three years there have been extraordinary turnouts of over 300 people. This unique event provides a great time for both children and families of the community and student participants. So even if you're a Harry Potter novice, don't miss out on what could be you're only opportunity to tour the most famous school of Witchcraft and Wizardry!

Senior Fellowship is a "great honor"

*from **Senior Fellows**, page 9*

sors for his two majors.

Being a Senior Fellow is, overall, a very meaningful opportunity for Thomas. "I had this grand project of trying to understand the relationship of homosexuality and colonialism during this period. However, there is very little scholarship in this area and even trying to do primary research is difficult, due to the sensitive nature of the topic, both now and especially then. In addition, this project allows me to combine a multitude of my interests in both historical and literary scholarship. For these reasons, I wanted to become a Senior Fellow. Being a Senior Fellow is a great honor but also a difficult process. The freedom it provides can be difficult because it requires discipline to actually get your project done and set your own deadlines. The aspects that are exciting are also some of the most frustrating. I have never done independent research at this level with this much freedom. Therefore, I am only now developing an internal gage as to if I have done enough work in a given day or week. Overall, however, I am enjoying my research immensely and am happy and honored that Hamilton provided me with this opportunity. Ultimately, this experience is providing me with a taste of what it is like to be a professional academic."

"My project also emerges out of my own activism," says Acampora. "I am interested in the way in which one 'otherness' can lead to a working with other people who are labeled 'others.' In my own life and work, I have tried to understand the connections between different oppressions in our society. I have tried to work towards a society where all people disadvantaged by their status as 'other' can become full equal members of our society. Therefore, my research looks at individuals who also felt 'other' and disadvantaged in their society. I am trying to understand how that changed the way in which they understood their position with other oppressed peoples."

Acampora has had a wonderful academic and activist experience at Hamilton. "I have to say that I have really liked the vast majority of my classes and have had countless amazing conversations with fellow students and professors, both inside and outside of class. I have been blessed with a lot of professors whom have become mentors and friends. In a different area of my experience here, I have loved my activist work to make change on the Hamilton campus, in the local area and in our country as well as all the great people I have met, worked with and befriended in that context."

After Hamilton, Thomas is planning to go into education, where he can hopefully teach at an inner-city urban school that needs good teachers. "I am also thinking about going to graduate school for a Ph.D. in history but I want to wait a few years before making that commitment," he says.

Elizabeth Jones
Project Title: "Reproduction, Rights, and Rally Cries: Contemporary Discourses in the American Abortion Debate"
Principal Advisor: Bonnie Urciuoli
Co-Advisor: Richard Werner

"My project consists of several related parts, all concerned with mapping the subtleties of the contemporary abortion debate," says Liz Jones, an anthropology and philosophy double major. "I am conducting ethnographic research in Utica at pro-life and pro-choice centers and clinics, to examine local activism and views about abortion, family planning, pregnancy and other related topics. I am particularly interested in how abortion activism is embedded in larger cultural frames like church communities, families and outreach programs. My work in Utica is complimented by an ongoing analysis of national abortion discourses as they are framed by pro-life and pro-choice groups on the Internet," she explains.

In this portion of the project, she is focusing on how various groups construct organizational identities and promote political and social agendas online. "This analysis will eventually be compared and reviewed in light of my findings in Utica," she says. "I am [also] conducting a limited philosophical literature review, concentrating primarily on applied ethics and social responsibility."

Liz became interested in this topic when she realized how close she was to one of the many "battlegrounds" of the American Abortion debate. She explains, "The abortion controversy in Utica is particularly heated. Anyone who had driven past Planned Parenthood on Genesee Street can attest to the ongoing protests in the area. For this reason, I was in an excellent position to do field research on this issue."

For Liz, "the chance to conduct an independent-if small scale-field project as an undergraduate is exhilarating and rare, and it allows me to learn about the realities of my chosen field. So to me, being a fellow has meant getting a glimpse of what's to come, and really liking what I see." Liz says, "A number of Hamilton faculty members have added a tremendous amount to my time at Hamilton. The energy, commitment, intellect, and expertise of people like Bonnie Urciuoli, Rick Werner, Henry Rutz, Marianne Janack and Sharon Williams are such assets to this campus. After spending last year and this summer abroad at two large universities, I have come to really appreciate my relationship with faculty members here at Hamilton."

Liz is currently applying to graduate school to study anthropology next fall. "These days, it seems that I have little time to commit to anything beyond this project and graduate school applications!" she says. "I do, however, make time to tutor at the Writing Center, teach skiing, participate in my prep school's alumni association and travel at every available opportunity."

Entrance and Seating procedures for President Clinton's lecture

Seating

All Hamilton employees and students will enter through the Emerson Lobby (entrance closest to the Athletic offices) in order to sit in the Hamilton seating section.

You must have a CURRENT STUDENT ID to enter this door; your ID will only admit you.

The doors will open for Hamilton students and staff at 5:00 p.m. (they will close at 6:30 p.m.)

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The lecture begins at 7:30 and we recognize that you may be arriving several hours before the lecture - please feel free to bring a book and get comfortable!

Miscellaneous

No backpacks, book bags or large items will be allowed into the field house; no photography or recording devices of any kind will be permitted.When we reach capacity, guests will be shuttled to the Chapel or Wellin hall to view the lecture via remote broadcast. If you ,or someone you know needs to make arrangements for a guest with a physical disability, please call 859-4529.

Business & Economics

Finance 101... because social security isn't so secure anymore

This week: bond price vs. bond yield

by Tim Foley '06
BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS EDITOR

If you have taken an introductory economics course here at Hamilton, your professor likely told you one day, "as interest rates increase, bond prices decrease, and vice versa." Broadly speaking, he or she was absolutely correct, though you probably have no idea why. The fact of the matter is that bonds are evaluated on two different scales: yield and price.

A bond's price is defined as the total amount an investor would have to pay to buy a bond in the open market. Most bonds are issued with a face value of $1,000, and therefore tend to trade at around $1,000.

A bond's yield is the return an investor can expect to receive over the life of a bond. At its simplest level, yield can be calculated by dividing a bond's interest payments by its face value. Using the previous example, if the interest payments are $100 and the price is $1,000, yield is simply 100/1000, 10 percent. This is not rocket science.

A bond's yield tends to move in the opposite direction of its price. As the price rises, the fixed interest payments are divided by a larger number, thus decreasing the yield. However, if bonds are so stable, why do prices fluctuate?

The most important part of any bond is its coupon rate. Most bonds make semiannual interest payments, providing planned income for the bond holder. Coupon rates are stated as a percentage of the bond's face value, which is usually $1,000. Simply stated, if you own a $1,000 bond with a 10 percent coupon rate, you will receive $100 dollar interest payments for the life of the bond. The only situation in which a bond will stop making payments is if the issuer can no longer afford them. So if bonds are so predictable and seemingly boring, why do bond prices fluctuate?

Three factors control a bond's price: credit rating of the issuer, the coupon rate compared to interest rates, and market trends. The issuer's credit rating is the most basic part of a bond's price. Simply put, a bond is nothing more than an I.O.U. note with periodic payments attached. If the bond issuer, be it a firm or municipal government, can no longer afford to make the interest payments, your I.O.U. turns into an "I'm sorry" note. Because most investors do not have the time or resources to investigate the finances of bond issuers, a bond rating system exists.

The system, primarily composed of two rating agencies, Moody's and Standard and Poor's, closely scrutinizes the issuer's ability to make interest and principal payments in the future. The rating agencies designate each firm or municipaity with a grade ranging from "AAA" to "D," with "D" being the worst. This grade provides investors with an indication as to the creditworthiness of the issuing party. Bonds are classified as either "investment grade" or "junk," and are then placed into subgroups within these broad categories.

A bond designated "investment grade" shows no significant signs of a future inability to make payments. Giant successful firms like GE and Ford Motors both issue investment grade bonds because no reason exists to believe that they will go bankrupt in the foreseeable future. The United States Government's securities, knows as treasuries, are among the safest bonds in the world.

On the other hand, "junk bonds" are appropriately named. Agencies will rate a firm or municipality's bonds as "junk" if the issuer's ability to make interest and principal payments is in limbo. A junk bond is like an I.O.U. from a friend who has no money and is living on the street. Because of the inherent risk associated with junk bonds, they offer a higher coupon rate, but no guarantees that those payments will be made. Though some rogue investors have made fortunes from junk bonds, their names will forever be associated with dubious practices and greasy hair.

If a firm performs poorly, its creditworthiness, and thus its credit rating, will fall. Falling ratings bring falling prices, as investors will not want to lend money to an entity which can not pay it back. Yet more often than not, bond prices are controlled by factors external to the firm.

As your professor told you, bond prices decrease as interest rates increase. Imagine you own the $1,000 bond with a 10 percent coupon rate. You will earn 10 percent on your investment, as dictated by the coupon rate. That coupon rate is fixed over the life of the bond. Now, imagine interest rates rise, and your local bank will pay you 15 percent interest on your savings account. Obviously, you will take your money out of the bond, and put it in the bank where it will grow more quickly. If everyone does the same, bonds will be sold at a faster rate than they are being bought, thus driving down the bond's price. Now, the bond will be trading below its face value, or at a discount. Bonds generally trade at a discount when their coupon rate is lower than interest rates on savings accounts. Because they could be earning more at a bank, investors will not pay full value for the bond.

The reverse rings true as well. If interest rates drop rapidly, as they did earlier this decade, investors will increase their interest in bonds. If the corner bank can only offer 5 percent on savings accounts, but a bond offers 10 percent, the choice is simple. Investors will rush to purchase bonds, driving up prices in the process. When a bond's coupon rate is higher than general interest rates, the bond's market price will exceed its face value, or trade at a premium.

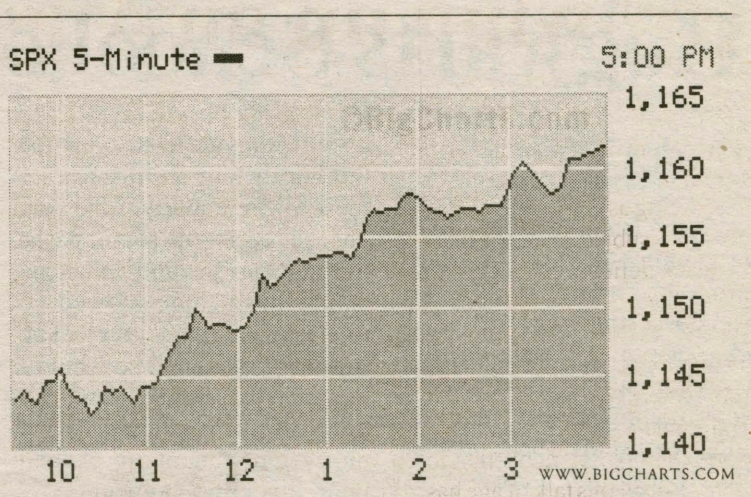
Finally, trends in investor sentiment and global events affect bond prices. Bonds tend to be a good indicator of investor confidence. When investors are waiting for a certain piece of news or are very unsure about future movements in stock prices, bond prices tend to do very well. Bonds, known for their high level of stability, are safe havens for risk-averse investors.

So what is more important, a bond's yield or its price? Well, that all depends on who you ask. Some folks simply buy a bond and hold it all the way to its maturity date. They benefit from the bond's security and the interest payments. For buy and hold investors, short term price movements do not matter at all because they have no intention of selling the bond and a bond's price does not change its interest payments.

On the other hand, some investors buy bonds only to sell them a few weeks or months later. If an investor predicts a rise in interest rates, he may choose to sell his bonds dueto the implied decrease in their value.

Buying a bond is generally the same as buying any other security. Only registered representatives of the National Association of Securities Dealers can perform the actual transactions. In addition, brokers can charge a higher commission for bonds because the bond market is not as liquid as the stock market. Fewer buyers and sellers exist for certain types of bonds, making locating and buying them more difficult. Registered representatives charge commission in the form of a "mark-up."

While bonds are more secure than stocks, it is important to remember that they, too can change price.



The S&P 500 index closed at 1162 on Thursday, November 4th, just one point shy of its 52-week high of 1163.

Financial market summary: 10/28-11/4

by Dave Kelland '05
BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS WRITER

Financial markets have been drowning in the uncertainty of the Presidential Election for the past few months. As the election results became clear, the S&P 500 was spurred to 1162, just one point below the 52-week high of 1163. Historically, financial markets have performed better under Republican Presidents.

Defense stocks were huge beneficiaries, with investors expecting highly lucrative contracts to be dealt out courtesy of American taxpayers and the party of small government. The Philadelphia Stock Exchange's Defense Sector Index reached an all-time high of 239 today.

The Dow Jones Healthcare Providers Index also benefited from Mr. Bush's reelection, rising 7.5 percent since Wednesday.

The technical posture of the stock market as well as the influence of seasonality bode well for the major indices over the next few months although there are certainly fundamental risks to equity returns over the longer term.

Both the health care and defense sectors benefitted due to the President's policies. Had John Kerry been elected, investors would assume an effort to remove troops from Iraq, hurting defense companies. Similarly, Kerry's plans to lower drug costs for Americans would have taken revenue from health care providers.

Surprisingly, technology stocks have not benefited as much as might have been expected given the rally in the broad market. Technology stocks tend to have higher "beta" values, meaning that they exaggerate the movement of the broader market.

The NASDAQ-100 is only up 2.1 percent over the past five days while the S&P 500 has rallied 3.1 percent. Under normal circumstances, the NASDAQ-100 would have had a larger absolute change than the S&P 500. The exception to the weakness in technology has been the internet sector, which touched a high level not seen since November of 2000 on Wednesday.

U.S. Treasuries were expected to sell off slightly following the decisive election as investors might have been expecting some post-election uncertainty similar to that seen in 2000. That sell-off lasted for a few hours on Wednesday morning before buyers emerged to keep Treasuries mostly unchanged. The 30-year bond, the 10-year note, and the 5-year note closed to yield 4.81 percent, 4.06 percent, and 3.34 percent, respectively.

After months of rallying, Thursday was the seventh day of the retreat in oil prices. The market has tried to rally twice, but both attempts have lasted only one day as traders have quickly sold into the bounces. The second of the two rallies occurred on Wednesday, set off by Mr. Bush's reelection with the assumption that the emergency petroleum reserve will continue to buy at the $50 per barrel level. Oil closed on the NYMEX today at $48.82 per barrel. The next major support level is $45.50 per barrel.

Gold prices made a 16-year high today but the strength does not seem to be fueled by real interest in the commodity. Rather, the weakness in the U.S. Dollar is largely responsible for gold's rally.

The U.S. Dollar's decline is expected to continue under the Bush Administration's policy of "benign neglect." The Euro currency is now trading just below $1.29, up from $1.24 in mid-October. That is a huge move considering the historical volatility of the Euro. The Euro has never traded at $1.31 and so a break of that level would be of great significance. The dollar has also been extremely weak versus the Yen, with the USD trading today around ¥106. Traders expect the Bank of Japan to begin buying dollars again if the ¥105 level is breached. The British Pound rose slightly this week to $1.84.

Arts & Entertainment

Growing up an American girl

by Megan Semerod '06
A&E COLUMNIST

Aging is a complicated process. It is subjective while marked by many definitive checkpoints- 6 to go to school, 16 to drive, 18 to vote, 21 to drink. This week those voting for the first time made history when age overtook apathy and made a significant contribution to voicing their right to vote. Yet all this talk of age has sent me into a spin about growing older. Turning twenty and experiencing my first taste of voting in a national election made me realize something - I'm not ready to grow up. In the words of John Mayer "and these days/ I wish I was six again/ make me a red cape/I wanna be superman." Yes, part of me wants to curl up in a corner, not worry about hours of homework and making my own dinner but instead be a child for the free time activities.

Before high school, the majority of my historical knowledge came from the American Girl dolls - I learned about the American Revolution from Felicity, prairie life from Kirsten, the Civil War from Addy, proper Victorian style from Samantha and World War II from Molly. I could imagine victory gardens, teashops and petticoats. Imagine my excitement when I was watching the Gilmore Girls and saw a commercial for Samantha: An American Girl Holiday on the WB. After all that time of make believing I was in 1904, I was amazed to see that I no longer had to pretend. Although I won't dress up like Samantha and sit her in my lap, you can rest assured that I'll be watching on November 23 - excited for Samantha to befriend the neighboring servant girl, Nellie.

Another major part of my childhood is reappearing on store shelves this holiday season - Mall Madness. Now, before I go any further I must admit that while home I still regularly play this game. My home friends enjoy having Mall Madness tournaments when there's nothing else to do. After a several weeks of search through the closets in my house I finally found the bright pink and purple box with the girl in her 90s bouffant surrounded by shopping bags smiling back at me. There were some obstacles before I could get down to Mall Madness business-such as scrubbing battery acid out of the speaker- I was gleeful to hear the MC taunt me with "your item costs five dollars more." It's turned into a cutthroat game – teams are randomly picked and friends turn against friends for being too cheap or too slow. When we're especially bored we try and use real credit cards instead of the fake toy ones that come with the game. However, Hasbro has decided that the box and mall needed a face life and a new generation of shoppers will learn the true art of power shopping.

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Wow. Sangertown in a box!

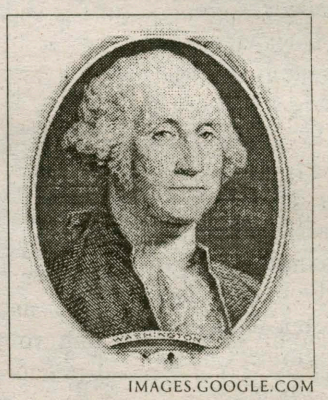
Rounding out the need to be a child again I recently found *The Baby Sitters Club: Super Special Two Baby Sitters' Summer Vacation* sitting on the window cell in my bathroom. After the girls in my apartment laughed about its appearance, we later found that one of the other girls that lived there had purchased it from eBay - it's scary that our childhood is now being sold with McDonalds toys and Beanie babies. However, it prompted us to watch *the Baby Sitters Club Movie*. We were transported back into the early 90s and reminded of how Kristy Watson took charge, Mary Ann Spear kept everyone calm and Jackie, the walking disaster, created chaos in the calm. I was surprised at how much these 11 and 13 year olds were trusted and once again realized that everything makes sense in a child's fantasy world.

It's been quite a week- one minute it felt great to be old enough to count for something and then instantly the realization hit that being old enough might mean facing many issues we aren't quite ready to reckon with. So, for a while, I think I'll keep the Babysitters nearby, and try not to take it all so seriously-at least not every day.

Where's George?

by Caroline Abbey '06
A&E COLUMNIST

Did you ever wonder where your money was going? Maybe you spent it on coffee, a magazine, beer, but what happened to it after that? Now you can find out at www.wheresgeorge.com! This website lets you track every dollar that comes into your possession. Just log in, type in your zip code, the value of the bill, year it was printed, and serial code and then it's registered! If someone else registered the bill before you, you'll get a history of where the bill has been before (usually bills that have been registered before are stamped with the website address). Now you can go and spend your bill and wait for someone else enter it into the site again. The site will even tell you how long it took the bill to travel from location to location and its average distance per day.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See that smile? He was just in a G-string.

This website is lots of fun, especially when you want to procrastinate. The site was officially started on December 23, 1998 and since then over 53 million bills have been entered totaling over $300 million. Recently, I found two bills stamped with www.wheresgeorge.com and have been hooked ever since I looked at the site. You could even pretend it's educational procrastination because you get to learn something about the dollar. I highly recommend checking out this website. The more people that register dollars, the better chance you'll have of getting "hits" on your bills. So far I've registered thirty-seven bills and only one has been registered again by another user. I know now from the site that my five dollar bill traveled from Clinton, NY to Utica, NY in four days and fifty minutes averaging about 2.1 miles per day.

The one problem on the site is that not many people register their bills so you may have to wait a long time before someone else picks up a bill you entered and enters it again. One thing that's very important after you enter a bill is to mark it with the website's address. Technically we shouldn't be writing on the bills, and the website doesn't necessarily encourage it, but on the Frequently Asked Questions part of the site it does say that, "the law defines 'illegal' defacement as defacement that renders bills unfit to be re-issued." So as long as you are not ruining the bill it seems to be okay to write on them.

If you give this site a shot you may find yourself pleasantly surprised with a new form of procrastination! So next time you are bored and sick of playing Snood or some other fun computer game, log on to www.wheresgeorge.com and find out where your dollars have been!

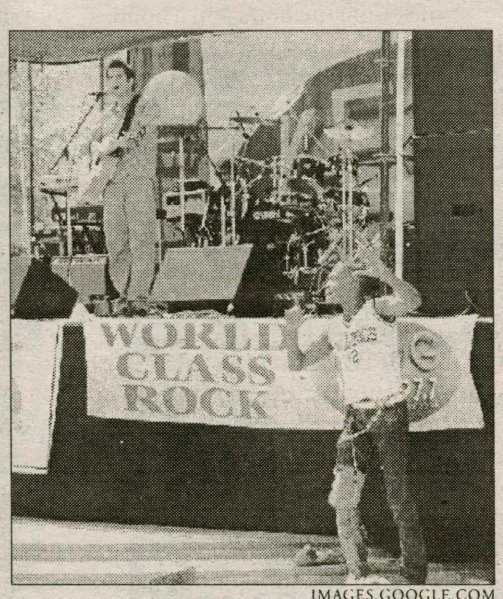
Matt Nathanson's *Beneath These Fireworks*

by Katey Healy-Wurtzberg '05
A&E COLUMNIST

Believe it or not folks, Matt Nathanson is coming to Hamilton. Never heard of him? Well, you're the only one, dumb-dumb. No, seriously though, Nathanson is getting red-hot, real fast, and you will want to catch his show November 13th with the ultimate in he's-so-nerdy-he's-hot-rock, Ben Kweller. To get you all pumped for the show, and to acquaint those as-yet-unfamiliar with his work, I will review his latest album, *Beneath These Fireworks*. Released in August 2003 on Universal Records, this was Nathanson's fifth album. I finally got my hands on a copy in March, and have been listening to it almost-constantly since then. As Nathanson himself proclaims, "[My] songs are about me being really sad as a person, and how much of a bummer it is, my life..." (Live Quote, 05.22.2003). This statement is clearly somewhat tongue-in-cheek.

Like many songwriters today, his music is reflective and sad and yet deeply uplifting. He hits on the utmost poignancy of modern life-the bitter sadness and beautiful humor of relationships. He is also painfully aware of the struggle to maintain one's own identity, despite the constant push of society to "couple up." His lyrics are sad, beautiful, intelligently happy-inherently contradictory, I know. I do not doubt that Nathanson has the voice, talent and appeal to become one of the next 'voices of our generation.' His are the songs that come to represent my life, the soundtrack of my existence. He sings about that profound "modern" sadness, but in that strangely positive and excited way that seems to consistently appeal to me in a vaguely obsessive sort of way.

Matt Nathanson is an exceptionally skilled musician as well, managing to capture moments that connect with people (musically and lyrically) in profoundly personal and universalistic ways. The songs on *Beneath These Fireworks* benefit from the increased tempo and energy the band environment lends them. Sing Me Sweet and Little Victories both experienced speed-ups in the studio, and benefited profoundly. His idiosyncratic delivery, much like Jason Mraz, lends itself well to "speed-singing." Having seen Matt perform both solo and with his new band of southern 'ragamuffins' (seriously, if you saw them you would say the same thing), it was clear how much Matt preferred the excitement of playing the songs live with a band. However, the magic of Matt's intermittably quirky and cute stage presence, as well as his extremely quick wit and self-deprecating humor lends itself incredibly well to solo performances. Plus he is totally adorable.



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Matt Nathanson appeals to all kinds of people: college students, white suburbanites and this guy. Maybe a little too much.

So... the next question y'all are obviously itching in your rainboots to ask is... ... is this a gender thing? Do I only like Matt Nathanson because he is a musician and thus is worthy to be lusted after? No! Well, partly. I'm not gonna lie, it helps. But I really think that a great deal of Matt Nathanson's charm stems more from his universal appeal to that audience in our age group that is both obsessed with relationships and their place in the relationship hierarchy, but frustrated by the tension between the modern positivity and our own dissatisfaction with that worldview. Matt articulates the difficult notion that we can somehow be happy and celebrate this world, but that this world can also be pretty craptastic.

I clearly rate this album highly, but because I can't wait to see how much more he is capable of, I give it a B+. You know, the kind of B+ Hamilton gives-its actually a 90 (clearly an A- anywhere else), but because Hamilton KNOWS we are so much smarter than that, they call it a B+, so we can have complexes all our lives. I mean, so we... uh... you know, I have NO idea why a 90 at Hamilton is a B+... that makes...no... sense. Huh...

Well, anyway, buy Beneath These Fireworks before the Ben Kweller/Matt Nathanson show next weekend (November 13 in the Annex!) and take a listen. You will NOT be disappointed! Tickets will be on sale Monday at 7:30 on the second floor of Beinecke. See you there.

Angel you sing about beautiful things/ And all I want to do is believe/ But I traded my dreams for this mess of memories/ And they just stopped working for me... ~Matt Nathanson

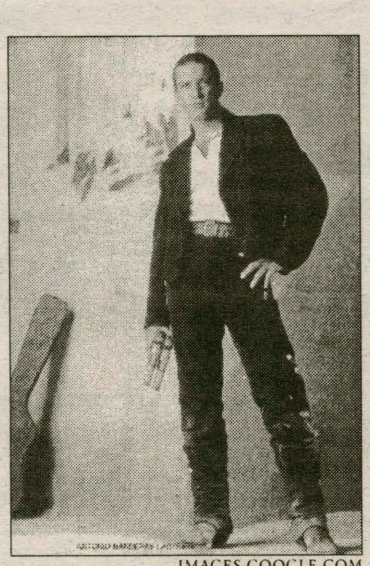
Classic Badass: *Desperado*

by Tim Mudie '05
A&E EDITOR

(Sung to the tune of *Desperado* by the Eagles): "Desperado... it stars Antonio Banderas. And it's totally badass. This movie is sweet!" Yes, these original, prophetic lyrics to the classic Eagles song were never released. But, even then, the Eagles knew that one day a movie called *Desperado* would come out, that it would star Antonio Banderas and that it would be incredibly badass. Unfortunately, the song *Desperado* never once appears in the movie, but that does not detract in any way from the intense badassitude of the movie. In fact I would go so far as to say that it is the most badass thing ever to come out of Mexico. Well, maybe second to the "Cheesy Gordita Crunch." Mmm.

The movie stars Antonio Banderas as a guitar-playing vigilante known as El Mariachi, or Señor Badass, who is searching for the bad guy responsible for the death of his true love and the disfigurement of his guitar playing hand. While the audience never really finds out exactly what the bad guy did or why he decided to kill Señor Badass's woman, you end up rooting for Antonio Banderas anyway. He even feels sorry for killing the tons of people, as can be seen when he goes to confession and tells the priest "Bless me Father, for I have just killed quite a few men." Now that's remorse! And, judging by the way life seems to be in this small Mexican town, the priest probably hears confessions like that a lot.

While Señor Badass is out killing tons of guys more or less at random, there is a hired killer looking for him as well. See, the druglord, named Bucho, that Antonio is looking for can't have some random guitarist out killing all of his men, not to mention anyone else who happens to be in the area. And so there is a guy (I have no idea what his name is) following him, eventually badly injuring Señor Badass, killing his side-kick Steve Buscemi (whose name, in a fit of creativity, is actually Buscemi in the movie) and killing a bunch of people on his own side. These things happen. And how does the hired killer go about his hired killing? With throwing knives. Now that is badass. But the excellent



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Antonio Banderas plays El Mariachi, which is Spanish for "the most badass dude ever!"

weapons don't stop there. Señor Badass has an entire arsenal in his guitar case, and his ex-band members have some pretty crazy guitar cases too. How crazy? Well, two are machine guns and one is a bazooka. Yes, the guitar case is a bazooka. Sure, it's probably not the most efficient style of bazooka. Hell, it might not even be possible to make a guitar case into a bazooka. But you know what? It's badass. Just try to deny that. Yeah, I thought so.

While *Desperado* centers almost entirely on Antonio Banderas and his badass quest there are quite a few sweet minor characters. I've already mentioned Steve Buscemi, who has an incredibly sweet opening scene, pops up once or twice more and dies, but then there's Cheech Marin as a bartender named "Short Bartender" and Quentin Tarantino as a drug-pick-up guy named "Pick-Up Guy." Sometimes the movie's creativity astounds even me. Director and screenwriter Robert Rodriguez seems to be interested not in names, or story or anything else besides the badass for that matter. And, amazingly, he pulls it off. This movie is tons of fun if you're looking for action plus there are a few great monologues, specifically by Buscemi and Tarantino, who is a master story-teller.

There are a few things that Rodriguez seems to have thrown in pretty much randomly, including a love story between Banderas and Salma Hayek. Now, I'm not for love stories in badass movies, but luckily it doesn't get in the way. Besides, Salma Hayek gets naked, so I'll let the love story thing slide. But I will not allow the "twist" at the end to slide. What twist? Well, Bucho, the drug lord who killed Señor Badass's girlfriend and disfigured his hand is none other than his brother. Now, you may think that I ruined the movie by telling you this. Trust me, being prepared for this crap will make it go down easier. I nearly left the room when the movie sprung this on me. But I didn't, because I trusted Rodriguez to give me more badass, which he did.

So, if you're not interested in story and want a fun movie with lots of people getting shot, check out *Desperado*. *Once Upon a Time in Mexico* was pretty badass, but you can't beat the original. And they didn't include the Eagles song, so they didn't take my advice. Those bastards. This has been Badass Movie Reviews. Next week: *Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason.*

Film Fraseology

By Andrew Whalen '08 and the Film Production Guild
A&E COLUMNISTS

Computers have become an amazing tool for filmmakers. It has reached the point where computers cannot only aid in editing and special effects, but can even motivate actors, give foot massages to directors, make clap-boards out of lasers and wear silly-looking berets. Of course, the world was not always like this. Believe it or not, there was once a time when Spielbot did not make putting together a movie as easy as writing a Film Fraseology article. In these Dark Ages of cinema, editors put together special effects with a giant stone machination known as an optical printer.

Film Frase of the Week:

Optical Printer

Snobby Elitist Movie Jerk Slipping Word into Everyday Speech, of the Week: "To achieve a grindhouse sentimentality in my most recent picture I used an optical printer for all the reductions, dissolves, superimpositions and super-superimpositions."

The optical printer was the high-tech editing suite of the twentieth century. The optical printer is, in its most basic elements, a projector and a camera on a rack that can be moved forward and backward. Footage shot on film is fed into the optical printer and can then be manipulated to create different editing tricks now done with a mouse click. Film could be double-exposed. The footage could be artificially sped up or slowed down. Finally, and perhaps the most useful to twentieth-century filmmakers, dissolves and superimpositions could be made. This allowed for two different elements to be seamlessly combined in one frame. The optical printer also paved the way for formalistic editing, complete with unique transitions between shots, rather than a simple cut. While use of the optical printer was pioneered early in the history of cinema, perhaps most famously in Fritz Lang's *Metropolis*, and Buster Keaton's *Sherlock Jr*, it was used for editing throughout the twentieth century and into today. More information about the optical printer can be found in Focal Press' 1988 book *The Technique of Film Production* by Steven Bernstein.

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7:30-9:05-10:00 ON 2 SCREENS DTS PG

Alfie ●12:20●2:40▲5:00-7:20-9:40
JUDE LAW R

SAW ●1:00●3:10▲5:20-7:35-9:45 DTS R

THE GRUDGE #1 MOVIE IN AMERICA
●12:45●2:55▲5:05-7:15-9:25 DTS PG-13

SHALL WE DANCE? RICHARD GERE
●12:10●2:25▲4:40-6:50-9:10 PG-13

RAY ●1:45▲4:45-7:45 JAMIE FOXX PG-13

SHARK TALE ●12:25●2:30▲4:30-6:40 PG

TEAM AMERICA 8:40 R

SURVIVING CHRISTMAS
●12:35●2:45▲4:50 BEN AFFLECK PG-13

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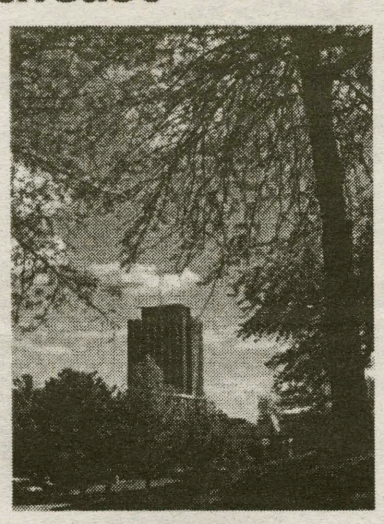

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48 $16.25
60 $20.00
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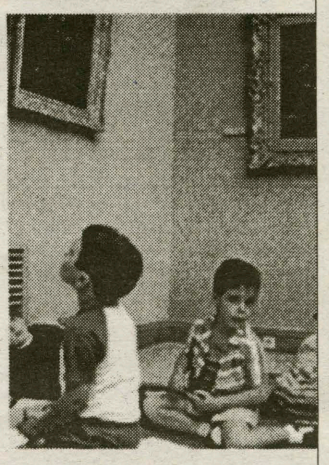
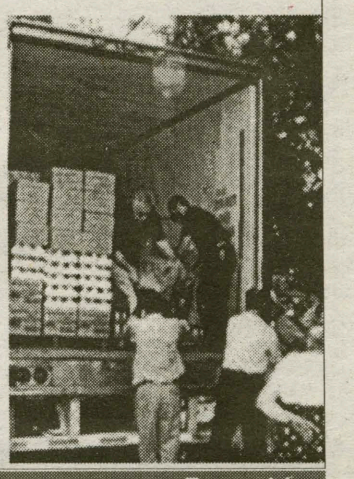


The Career Centers of Hamilton College and Colgate University invite all students to attend the tenth annual Nonprofit Career Fair. This is an excellent opportunity to discuss career options, full-time, as well as summer opportunities with nonprofit organizations. You need not sign up in advance to attend.

For further information, contact Leslie Bell or David Bell @ the Hamilton College Career Center x4346



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Science & Technology

Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis

The science and the controversy

by Katrina Lexa '05
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Students in this fall's biology seminar on molecular genetics invited Dr. James A. Grifo, Director of the Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at NYU School of Medicine, to speak on campus over Parent's Weekend last Friday. Foremost expert in his field, Dr. Jamie A. Grifo lectured on "Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis - The Science and the Controversy." For over an hour, Dr. Grifo talked to an appreciative audience, telling them about his passion for reproductive medicine, cracking jokes all the while.

Currently, there are four options for couples at genetic risk for childbirth: no screening at all, chorionic villus sampling, amniocentesis or preimplantation genetic diagnosis. Of those options, preimplantation is the only choice that allows families to understand the risk carried by their embryo before pregnancy begins. Grifo told his audience that this new method of genetic diagnosis reduces the risk of giving birth to a genetically diseased child from twenty-five to fifty percent to about one percent.

In obtaining his MD and PhD in the field of Reproductive Medicine, Grifo wanted to enhance the technology available to families who were at genetic risk but still wanted to bear children. Although the federal agencies were unhelpfully initially, Grifo's group tested mice embryos to gather evidence supporting their new technology. Finally, they were given permission to utilize embryo biopsy techniques on people after a group of British researchers did it first. Grifo and his research group were first in the U.S. and second in the world to use embryo biopsy as a tool to help women carry normal pregnancies to term. Approval was first given in the early 1990s, and by now over a thousand babies have been born around the world using this technique.

Embryo biopsy occurs through in vitro fertilization. In vitro fertilization requires a woman's eggs to be fertilized with her donor's sperm in a test tube to create an human embryo. Normal in vitro fertilization then returns the embryos to the patient without checking their genetic makeup. Alternatively, preimplantation genetic diagnosis selects the healthiest embryos based on their genetic makeup, after which the embryo is implanted into the patient. The biopsy procedure allows for the study of chromosomal makeup in the cultured embryo. Once an embryo tests as normal, and has potential to be carried to term, it is transferred to the patient. Clearly, this procedure significantly reduces the risk that a patient could give birth to a child with serious genetic defects or lose the baby in a horrible miscarriage.

The entire process of preimplantation genetic diagnosis takes about five days. While not instantaneous, Grifo reminded his audience, "We're doing genetic tests on a single cell. We had to learn how to do this." The technology involved in testing the genes of a single embryonic cell includes very precise scientific methods such as polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and florescent in situ hybridization (FISH). Grifo's team uses gel electrophoresis to see chromosomal DNA's movement, which can tell them which embryonic cells are normal and which carry abnormalities. In fact, their research is accurate enough to be able to predict which cells have only normal DNA, which have risk for transmitting a genetic disease to their offspring (carrier), and which are diseased.

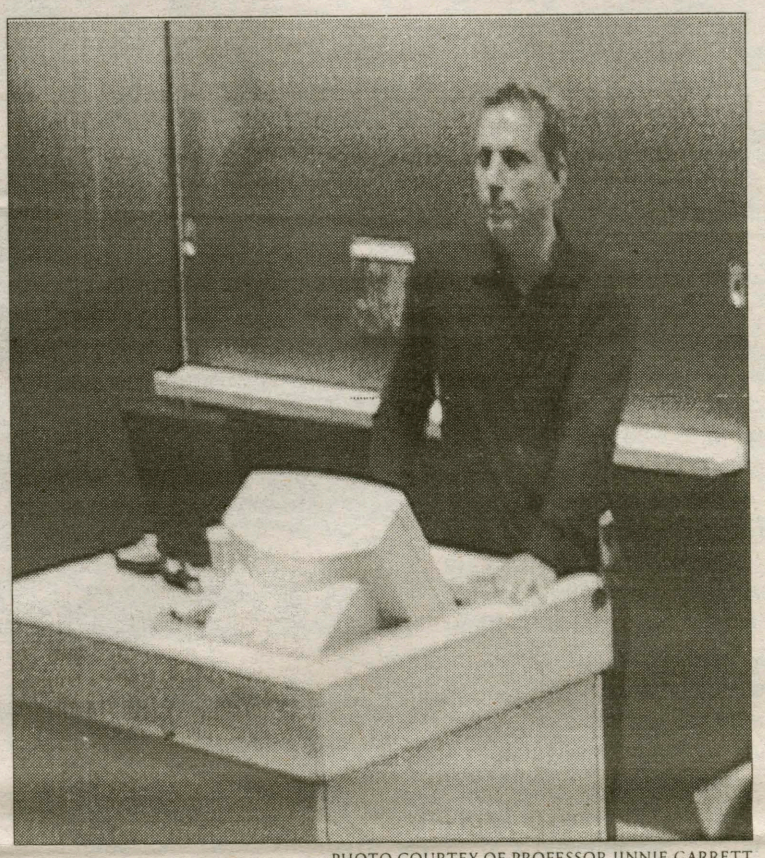


PHOTO COURTEY OF PROFESSOR JINNIE GARRETT

Dr. James A. Grifo amazes his audience in KJ auditorium.

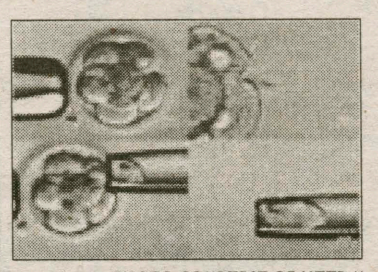
"It's pretty clear that it's the egg that's been the cause of the problem," Grifo stated. In fact, the rate of aneuploidy - an abnormal number of specific chromosomes within a cell - increases with a woman's age from 1.5% in her twenties to 19.1% in her early forties. Therefore, female age is the single most important factor in the success of in vitro fertilization. "Nature," said Grifo, "has been doing genetic screening." Now he is treating an age-related problem, addressing the difficulties of pregnancy for older women created by a society that had been ignorant of the effects of aging on oocytes. He works mostly with single cell genetic diseases, helping patients have the child they long for.

There are several safety issues involved in preimplantation genetic diagnosis, as with all other forms of medicine. There is "no guaranteed safety in medical technique," as Grifo pointed out. Patients must be willing to accept that. Grifo said, saying that "having seen their known risk, most patients take the unknown risk." The technique is used safely, but Grifo clearly indicated that embryo biopsy was still considered experimental: "Until a few generations have gone through this technology, we won't really be able to publish [the safety of the experiment]." However, he argued that "life is experimental; who gets to decide what we should or shouldn't do?"

Overall, the success rate of in vitro fertilization for Grifo's laboratory and others like his is only in the fifty percent range. "Everyone thinks that every embryo makes a baby. It's not easy to get pregnant, it's a process, most of the embryos a body makes aren't normal." In addition to the chances for pregnancy, the actual procedure is "pretty long, pretty invasive, pretty involved and pretty expensive."

The usage of in vitro fertilization and embryo biopsy for genetic testing has created a lot of controversy, and according to Grifo, misrepresentation, in the media. "I don't think people understand that we have ethical advisory boards," Grifo told his understanding audience, "but there's a line between using technology and not using technology." His team's work is not destructive, nor is it being used to aid people have a particular sex, but rather to help them have a child who will not be plagued with a debilitating genetic disease. "We are the most highly regulated group of physicians in the world in this field...by no fewer than five government agencies. [Our research is] presented in a way that is unfortunate."

In general, audience members praised Dr. Grifo's lecture.



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A diagram of an embryo biopsy.

America's bad gas

by Jonathan S. Rees '06
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Recent calculations by Robert Jackson and William Schlesinger of Duke University show that developing hydrogen and nuclear power is not necessary in the quest to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Their research demonstrates that current technology, specifically the use of existing hybrid automobiles, may cut current emissions by 10%.

The United States produces more greenhouse gases than any other country in the world. In March 2001 the Bush Administration pulled out of the Kyoto Protocol, a 1997 international accord set forth to significantly reduce greenhouse emissions.

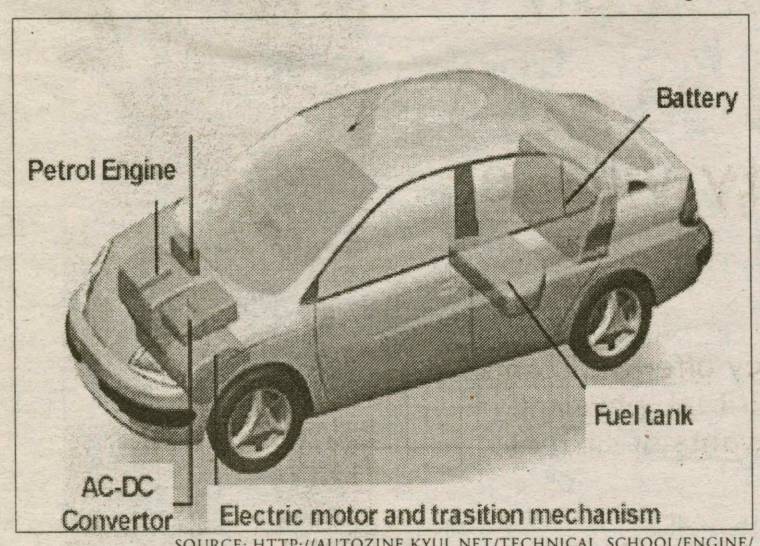
Many environmentalists have accused Bush and his administration of corrupt motives and flawed arguments in their decision to withdraw.

The US agreed to reduce its greenhouse emissions by 7% in the years 2008-2012 relative to 1990 gas levels in the basic guidelines of the Kyoto Protocol. This equates to a 30% greenhouse gas reduction according to current levels says Chris Field, a specialist in global climate change at the Carnegie Institution of Washington in Stanford, California.

Apparently, abiding by the protocol would mean temperance in American industry's burning of fossil fuels and driving fuel efficient cars. The Bush administration, however, has focused its efforts on developing new technology, such as hydrogen powered vehicles, in order to cut down emissions. Bush has already invested over one billion dollars towards these efforts.

According to Jackson and Schlesinger, this quest for new technology is unnecessary because a 10% reduction is possible now if America switches to existing hybrid electric vehicles, which run on both gas and electricity. "We're trying to say we can do it now, and relatively cheaply," Jackson says.

This comes at a cost only to consumers, who may have to pay a few thousand dollars extra for hybrid vehicles. Given the recent increase in gasoline prices, however, a hybrid car actually pays for itself after a few years. If consumers recognize the threats of global warming, it may be possible to reduce emissions without a mandate by the government.



SOURCE: HTTP://AUTOZINE.KYUL.NET/TECHNICAL_SCHOOL/ENGINE/TECH_PIC_ENG_PRIUS.JPG

The Toyota Prius, pictured here, may be America's ticket to fresh air.

A new home for the New York Jets

by Dan Seeger '06
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY WRITER

As a diehard New York Jets fan from New Jersey, there are really only two problems in my life: the Jets do not have a home stadium and there is way too much pollution in the air. The Jets, probably the best football team ever, have played their "home" games in Giants Stadium, since 1984.

No matter how many games the Jets play in that stadium it will still be the home of the New York Giants and the Jets will remain the hobos of the National Football League, roaming the mean streets of the ACF East.

As if that were not bad enough, New Jersey is plagued by stereotypes of smog and toxic waste that make the state seem more like a contaminated war zone than the Garden state.

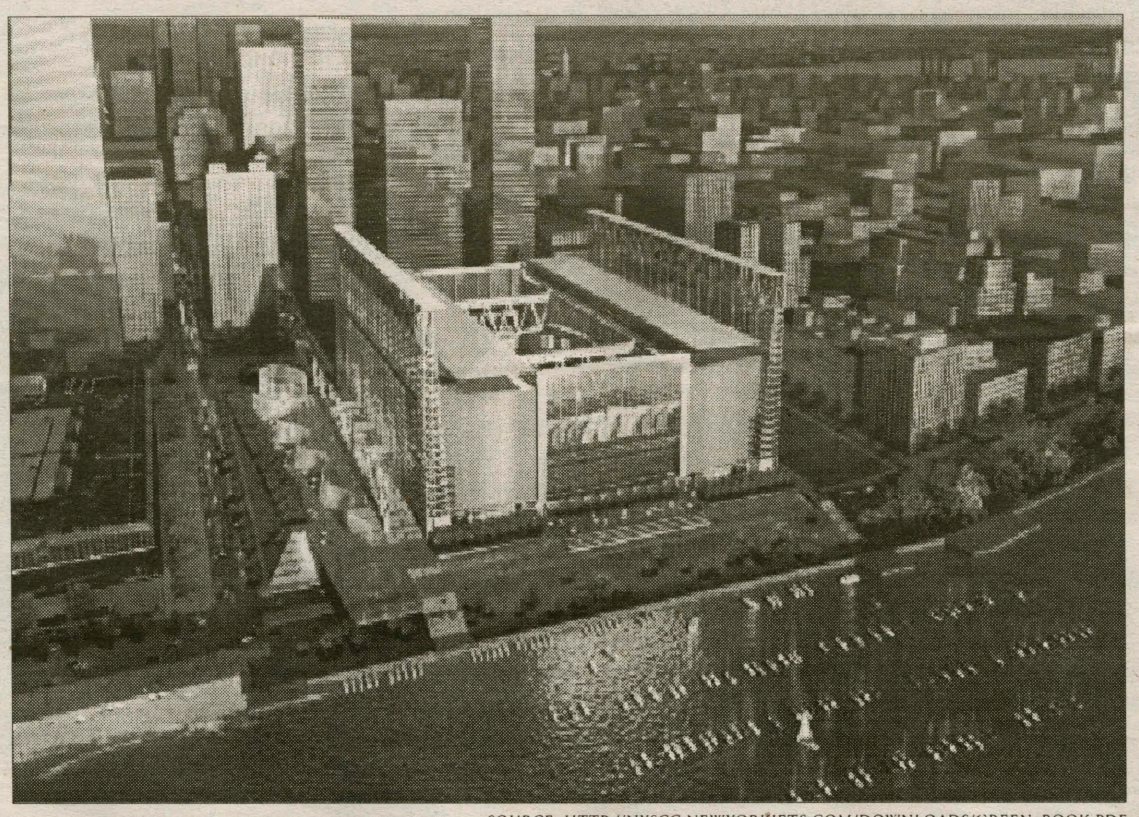
However, it appears as if there may be one solution to both of my problems. New York City is currently petitioning for a bid to host the 2012 summer Olympics. Part of the proposal includes a new stadium for the games, which would permanently be used as the home stadium for the Jets.

The proposed stadium would be built on Manhattan's West Side over a platform presently used by the Long Island Rail Road for storage. Apart from being used for athletic contests, the stadium would also provide extra room for the Jacob Javits Convention Center. The stadium features a capacity of 75,000, retractable roof, and plans for a new link to the mass transit system.

Although this stadium would finally give the Jets a stadium of their own, what about the second part of my problem? As my luck would have it, the stadium would not only accommodate the Jets but would also be built with an innovative emphasis on environmental friendly technology. The proposal calls for 25,000 solar collector tubes that will heat water to be used to regulate the temperature of the complex. The stadium, which will be built from recycled material, will also have 100,000 square feet of photovoltaic panels and 34 wind turbines each 40 feet tall. It is estimated that the complex will be able to generate almost all of its energy during a football game and up to 25 percent when being used as a convention hall. It will also have the capability to generate energy for the surrounding grid when it is not being used. William Pedersen of Kohn Pedersen Fox, the New York-based architecture firm working on the project said "We envision this as being the greenest building to date."

It is hoped that the environmentally friendly features will attract the attention of the Olympic committee, which has recently added the environment to the Olympic Movement, already consisting of culture and sports.

Although acceptance of the proposal has been stalled, the stadium is clearly a step forward in placing renewable energy technology in the mainstream. And although it may not be the definitive answer to New Jersey's pollution problems, this stadium would definitely please any thermodynamic-loving jock.



SOURCE: HTTP://NYSCC.NEWYORKJETS.COM/DOWNLOADS/GREEN_BOOK.PDF

Pictured here is the architects' projected vision of the future New York Jets stadium. Let's go jets!

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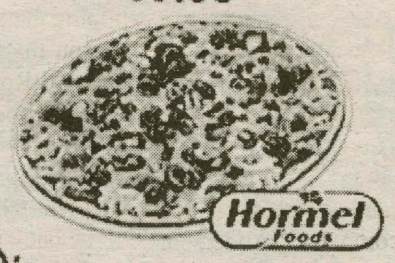

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Pizza

	Small	Large
Cheese	6.00	8.95
1 Item	6.75	9.95
2 Items	7.50	10.95
3 Items	7.75	11.95
4 Items	8.50	12.95

Small = 8 pieces Large = 16 pieces

Items
Broccoli, Eggplant, Sausage, Mushrooms, Pepperoni, Peppers, Onions, Meatballs, Spinach, Anchovies, Double Cheese, Black Olives

Slices
Garlic Slices ..... 1.16 each + tax
Pizza Slices ..... 1.16 each + tax
Extras ..... 35c each

10 Wings 4.75
20 Wings 6.75
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60 Wings 15.95
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Winter Preview 2004, Part 1: Men's Basketball

The combination of new and old faces make Hamilton the favorite in the Liberty League

by Michael Proia '05
SENIOR EDITOR

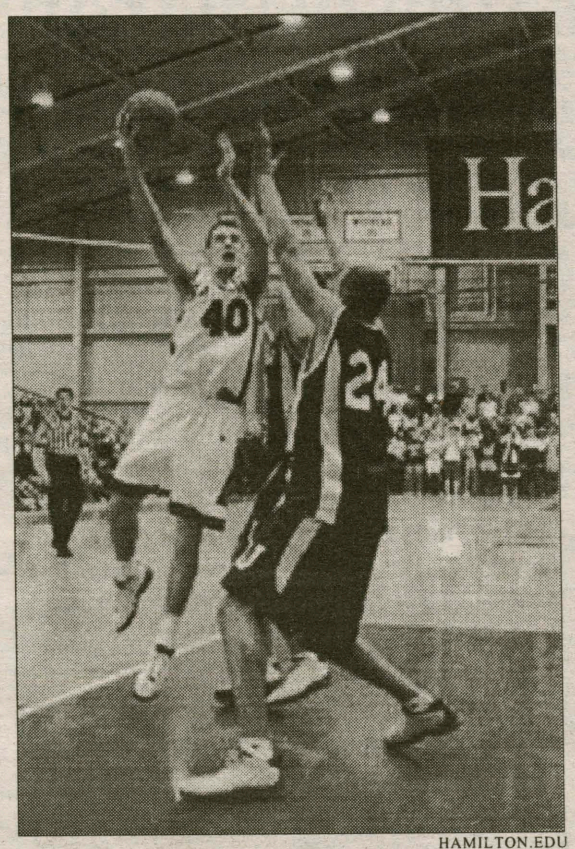
In the past two years, the men's basketball team has won back-to-back conference titles, and graduated an All-American. Some teams might take that and accept a rebuilding year, but as usual Hamilton has reloaded and stands as the favorite to win the Liberty League Championship again. This year's group will feature a lot of new faces, but they are already hard at work building team chemistry and cannot wait to hit the floor as a unit for the first time.

The most significant change this year will not be in the line up but rather on the bench where Tobin Anderson replaces Tom Murphy, who coached Hamilton for the last 34 years. Anderson comes to the program from Clarkson University, and knows the programs storied history well. He has high expectations for himself, his staff, and his team this season. Matt Capell and James Woodworth will join him as assistants, in addition to his father, Tobin Anderson Sr.

Last year's squad featured five seniors, and these losses will not be easy to replace, but the current group believes they are up to the task.

"This year's team is inexperienced together but not as players," said coach Anderson. "A lot of these guys have played big minutes in the past, like Nick [Jones] '06, Phil [Valenti] '05, Mike [Evans '05] and [Marshall] Peck '05. Even our freshmen are very mature, so they have experience as players. They all want to win so they are working hard to become a team."

"We have a lot of guys between 6'3" and 6'5" that are very versatile," commented Anderson. "We have guys who rebound, and a lot off guys who pursue the ball. Success comes down to defense and rebounding, and we have some great rebounders here."


HAMILTON.EDU

Even with All-American Joe Smith's (40) absence, Hamilton should be able to fill the void in the middle with young talent.

Tim Welchons '06 will anchor the team from the point guard spot. Welchons may be the best pure scorer in the league, and will look to get his teammates involved as much as possible. He spent most of last season rotating between point guard and scoring guard, and his increased load in leading the team will be a key factor.

Tsakane Ngobeni '07 returns hoping to improve on a freshman season that earned him Conference Co-Rookie of the Year honors. Ngobeni should dominate the low block this year, scoring, rebounding and defending.

The Continentals also welcome back to the team Marshall Peck, and expect to see Peck get plenty of time at the two-guard spot. Peck's versatility allows him to play almost any position on the floor, causing match up problems for every opponent at both ends of the floor.

Michael "Three Point" Evans returns for his final season and hopes to make a run at Kevin Yanni's '03 single season three-point record. Evans is a deadly assassin who has been described as one of the best long-range shooters in the country. Last year Evans battled through an ankle injury, but he feels healthy this season, and has improved his defensive play immensely over his career at Hamilton.

Clarkson transfers Phil Valenti and Nick Jones will join these returning players. Jones also received Conference Co-Rookie of the Year honors last season, and has an outstanding perimeter games for a player listed at 6'6". Valenti is another versatile player, playing primarily guard while standing at 6'4".

"We're going to run a motion offense with a lot of interchangeable parts," said coach Anderson. "You'll see Jones and Peck and Valenti all sharing the load with Welchons bring the ball up the floor. Tim is a little banged up right now and we're going to be patient with bringing him back. So those guys will really help us."

A solid class of freshmen, including Giorgi Chavleishville '07, rounds out the team. Coach Anderson calls the big man an "immediate impact player. He is a true post player, who loves to play physical with his back to the basket. He understands the game well, passes great from down low, and works really hard." Expect Giorgi to play a lot of minutes at center this season.

The other freshmen will be important to the success of the team but may see limited minutes early on. Sam Zullo '08 and Rob Toste '08 can both shoot the ball well and handle the ball. Chris Moore '08 has tremendous versatility for a 6'4" player, stepping out wide to play guard or battling with forwards when necessary.

The eleven man roster also includes John Fleming '07 and Jeff Bernardi '07. Fleming saw limited minutes as a forward and guard off the bench last season, but hopes to contribute more in games this year. Bernardi is developing into a solid point guard who can handle the pressure well.

The team will work hard through a tough non-conference schedule, trying to build up to what will surely be a very competitive conference this year. Coach Anderson is excited about all the offensive weapons and options on this team, but knows the season will come down to defense and rebounding.

"We have plenty of guys who can score," coach stated. "But we have to be great defensively all year. That's where we'll build the foundation, and success begins and ends with defense."

The Continentals open their season November 19 at Oberlin, and play in the Babson Tournament the following day. Hamilton returns to the Hill for its home opener December 2 against Middlebury. If you want to get a sneak peak at them team, Thursday November 12 they will be hosting a "Midnight Madness" practice from 10-11 pm. The night will feature a slam-dunk contest and scrimmage, and fans can receive t-shirts, food and other prizes. The team hopes for a large turnout, especially from the Dawg Pound.

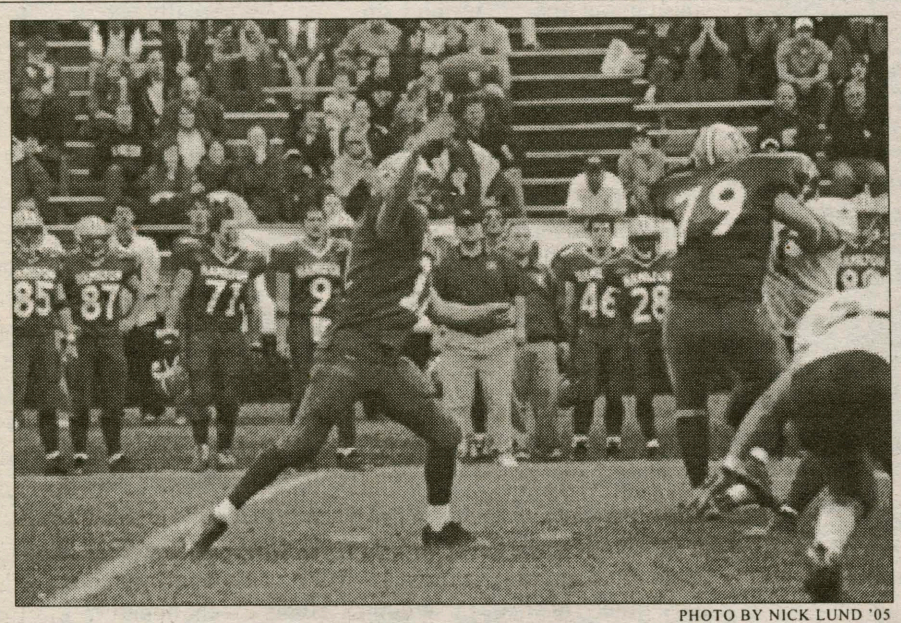


PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05

Senior day for football! Come early and watch the seniors get honored. Hamilton then plays Middlebury at 12:30 on Steuben Field.

Get ready for Midnight Madness at Hamilton!

The men's basketbal team will take to the court for the first time in front of its home crowd on Thursday, November 11 from 10-11 pm in the Bundy Scott Field House. The night will feature player introductions, a slam-dunk contest, and a scrimmage. There will also be free t-shirts, food, and more as the team kicks off the 2004-2005 season with a bang. There are a lot of new faces on the squad this year and what better way to get to know them than watching them soar above the rim throwing down dunks? They won't play at home until December 2, so this will be your only chance for a while to bring the noise! That means you, Dawg Pound.

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Volume XXXXV Number 9

Spectator Sports

November 5, 2004

Men's soccer finishes strong with win

Continentals prepare for Liberty League Championships

by Mike Hayes '06
SPORTS WRITER

The Hamilton College men's soccer team has been chomping at the bit all season long for the Liberty League playoffs to begin. Right from the get-go, the single focus was on making the making the playoffs. Slowly throughout the year, as the wins began to pile up and the team's confidence improved, the focus shifted away from simply making the playoffs to actually winning the league championship. This coming weekend, the Continentals will be given that very opportunity as they travel upstate to Canton, NY where they will battle Union College in the semifinals and hopefully continue its voyage into Saturday's championship.

PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05

Hamilton travels to St. Lawrence to face Union College in the semifinals on Friday afternoon. Earlier this year, the Conts shut out the Dutchmen, 1-0.

Last weekend, on parent's weekend, the Continentals used their non-conference game with SUNY Geneseo as a warm-up heading into the playoffs and came away with an impressive 3-1 victory. The Continentals handed the red hot Geneseo squad its first loss in seven games and finished with a regular season record of 10-3-1:the fifth straight double digit win season for Hamilton men's soccer under Coach Perry Nizzi.

"Obviously this game served as a great warm-up going into this weekend," commented senior tri-captain Jake Shapiro '05, "all in all, I felt like we played one of our best games of the season."

Shapiro, a defensive standout all season long, showed his offensive upside, scoring the first two goals of his career and rightfully laying claim to defensive performer of the week honors within the Liberty League. Shapiro's first goal of the afternoon came off a penalty kick at the 12:47 mark, giving the Conts a 1-0 lead. However, before the Hamilton friends and family could finish clapping, the Blue Knights struck back just a minute and a half later, tying the game up at one goal apiece heading into half time.

"We never felt like we were back on our heels, but we knew it was important to finish them off early in the second half," remarked Shapiro. In the second half, Shapiro did just that. He put the Continental team on his back scorching a twelve yard rocket past a helpless Geneseo goaltender at the 11:25 mark of the second half.

Ian Hildebrand '07, an offensive standout all season long, scored his seventh goal of the season clinching the game for the Continental's in the 66th minute of play. Greg Rogan '07, the other half of the sophomore scoring duo, assisted on the play. Anthony Tripicchio '06 remained very stellar for the Cont's turning away eight shots and looking very steady heading into the playoffs.

This Friday, the men's soccer squad will take on the Dutchmen from Union College at 1:00 p.m.. The Dutchmen finished the season with an overall record of 10-6-1 and a Liberty League record of 4-2-1. Early in the season, Hamilton College escaped with a 1-0 overtime at home with Greg Rogan scoring the winner.

"Union definitely played us tough during the regular season and they aren't a team you want to take lightly," commented Shapiro, "We can't look ahead to the championship until we take care of business on Friday." The other semifinal match up will feature St. Lawrence vs. Rensselaer with the championship taking place Saturday at noon.

Shapiro, a leader all season long, finished by saying, "Everything is positive heading into the weekend. F or some of us, this is our last shot and we plan on leaving everything we have on the field and have no regrets.

Women's soccer will host conference tourney

Continentals' hopes of undefeated season ends; lose to #5 Oneonta, 4-2

by Andrew Dassori '07
SPORTS WRITER

This past weekend was a rough one for the women's soccer team as they suffered the first true blemish in what had been an undefeated season. The Continentals came up short against their toughest competition of the season, losing 4-2 at Love Field to the defending division three national champions, #5 nationally ranked SUNY Oneonta.

The Continentals had a rough start, as Oneonta's Corinne Tisei scored 27 seconds after the first whistle sounded. From there on out, it was a game of catch-up in which Hamilton only managed two goals, which was not enough to overcome Oneonta's offensive firepower. Coach Gilligan explained.

"It's tough to win a game when the other team scores in the first and last 30 seconds of the half, but still, every time they scored we were resilient." Scoring for the Continentals were sophomores Hilary Gamble and Eileen Fisher. Fisher continued her stellar second season with her scoring touch, and now leads the team with eight goals. Defensively, the Continentals played well despite the four goals they let up. The freshman tandem of goalies consisting of Katie Plummer and Caitlin McGilley combined to make eight saves for the Continentals. "All of the field players did well. As a team we played well. We're just not at that level yet," said Coach Gilligan. She added, "we are close, and to me that's very encouraging when you are playing a team as good as Oneonta." The team had a "tough mentality" throughout the game, and this should serve them well in the upcoming playoffs.

PHOTO BY NICK LUND '05

Hamilton's Ali Grant (19) moves the ball forward.

Despite the loss, this game represented a giant step in Hamilton's women's soccer program. This was the first contest between two top ten programs in the history of Love Field, and it showed that Hamilton deserved to be in this elite category. From this point on, however, they must prepare for the likes of Skidmore, William Smith, and Union in the upcoming conference tournament, which they will host.

Preparation has been hard for the team, given the weather and the change to daylight savings time. Still, even without lights on their field, the team has been doing their best to get ready. "Mentally we are ready, we are just fine-tuning some dead ball situations to give these teams something they haven't seen before," explained Coach Gilligan. She added, "The girls know what is at stake, women's soccer has never made NCAAs, and that is our goal." And this is the goal of all the team members as they enter the weekend.

"It's really exciting to be part of a team that has accomplished so many firsts in a season," remarked sophomore Devin Eckstein.

"We really believe we can make it to the NCAA tournament and do well there, and proving that begins this weekend." The team is ready for the challenge, and with one final run at another piece of Hamilton women's soccer history, the team looks to show Skidmore, William Smith, Union, and the rest of the Liberty League what it can accomplish.

The team plays Skidmore today at 11:00 a.m. in the semifinals of their single elimination conference tournament. Please come out and support your Continentals as they try to make history.